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Karate kids strike blow for equality

EVERYONE has heard of Bruce Lee, Karate Kid and Kung Fu Panda and a local karate school aims to spread that fun and knowledge with disabled and disadvantaged people.

Ikkaido, also known as the Disability Karate Federation, uses the power of martial arts to educate people all over Oxfordshire.

Last week, the students attended a grading session at the Park Club in Milton Park, where they were given coloured belts according to their experience.

Now in its fifth year, Ikkaido aims to educate disabled and disadvantaged people as coaches and mentors, while also providing apprenticeships in martial arts.



Group warns plans to extend road could destroy woodland

By Eva Astreinidou

CAMPAIGNERS are concerned plans to extend a road in Didcot will lead to destruction of woodland and nature in the area.

The Didcot northern perimeter road will offer new links to the west of the town, including a new rail crossing from the of the power station to the Great Western Park development, as

well as a new roundabout to Abingdon Road.

The group 'stop Didcot perimeter road extension' are campaigning against the plans, saying they would be destructive to nearby woodland.

Ingo Schüder, a Didcot Ladygrove resident who is chairing the group, said: "We acknowledge there is an issue with noise and pollution on Abingdon Road, but putting people

elsewhere into misery is not the answer.

"We believe wider area alternatives to the extension have not been considered and that the proposal is a short-term solution that will make things worse for people in Didcot."

Mr Schüder, a trained ecologist who has advised local authorities on the development of green space, said that Furlong woodland contributes to

residents' quality of life. He said the woodland is full of wildlife including European protected species.

The new route is designed to help Didcot's traffic hotspots as well as deal with the additional 10,000-plus new dwellings that are planned for the area over the next 15 years.

The last consultation in 2016 collected 31 objections, with residents saying they are worried about flood-

ing and the impact on wildlife and the value of houses in the area.

Others objected on the grounds of 'severe and unacceptable' impact on properties in the Frith and Furlongs.

A spokesman for South Oxfordshire District Council said: "People's views are very important to us, which is why we have been consulting on the South Oxfordshire Local Plan." The consultation came to an end yesterday.

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Emergency care 'worse than England's average'

By Eva Astreinidou

A QUALITY report on the John Radcliffe found the urgent and emergency services at the hospital need improvement after the unit performed 'worse than the England average' during random inspections.

The report by the Care Quality Commission released last Tuesday is based on unannounced inspections in October 2016, as well as national care standards and information given from patients and the public.

The body that monitors and regulates health services rated the hospital's surgery services as 'good' but said several improvements need to be made to its emergency department.

In a report signed off by chief

inspector of hospitals Professor Sir Mike Richards, the commission concluded that the emergency department at the hospital had poorer average time of assessing adults and children than the England average.

It added: "Patients arriving via ambulance did not consistently receive an assessment within 15 minutes of arrival.

"The department performed significantly worse than the England average on the A&E four-hour waiting time target, although the percentage of patients waiting four to 12 hours from decision to admit to admission was better than the national average."

The layout of the department impacted the flow of patients and the resuscitation area contained four bays that were often

used to accommodate more than four patients.

"In cases when capacity did not meet demand [it] was used to accommodate up to six patients on trolleys."

The report added that training of staff varied and was not "in line with the trust's target in some areas" and that "not all staff were up to date with the required level of safeguarding training".

It read: "In all areas, patients and relatives were positive about the caring attitude of staff, their kindness and their compassion. However, in the ED we observed occasions when patient privacy and confidentiality was not maintained."

The report concluded that overall, "staff showed good understanding and made rea-

sonable adjustments to meet patients' individual needs".

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's chief executive, Dr Bruno Holthof, said: "The positive overall tone of the report is extremely encouraging and our staff should be rightfully proud of the many improvements the inspection found, particularly given ongoing heavy demand on our services.

"The trust the board and I also recognise there have been great improvements in the range of services offered as part of urgent and emergency care.

"The CQC has identified aspects of care in which the trust must improve and we are already in the process of producing an action plan to address these areas."



**All the latest
business news
in this week's
Oxford Paper**

Progress update on patient care

RESIDENTS are invited to attend Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group's (OCCG) board meeting for an update on the progress it is making to improve patient care.

The OCCG's chief executive David Smith will lead the meeting and a report on its finances will be delivered.

The meeting will take place between 9am and 12.45pm on Thursday, May 25, at Jubilee House, Oxford Business Park.

The public can submit questions at least 48 hours beforehand to oxon.gpc@nhs.net

Agenda items will be available on the OCCG website from a week prior to the meeting at: tinyurl.com/l4bkoo8

'Protecting patient data is our top priority'

OXFORDSHIRE'S hospitals have reassured patients that protecting their information is a top priority in the wake of last week's cyber attack.

The county's health services were unaffected by the global attack which saw 47 NHS trusts in England fall victim to the hackers.

On Friday, the Oxford Health

NHS Foundation Trust said: "We are aware of the cyber threat which has affected some NHS Trusts and we are taking the appropriate steps to address the situation."

The Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust said they continue to be vigilant and added: "Protecting patient information is a top priority for us."

The hackers used ransomware to encrypt files and hold the users to hostage demanding \$300 to release the files back to them.

Dr Faye Mitchell, who teaches cyber security at Oxford Brookes University, said a patch to protect against the software used has been available since April.

She said: "Any organisation

should have access to this level of protection against malware."

She said it is common knowledge in the IT industry that a percentage of NHS trusts have Windows XP in place, a piece of software that was not extended past 2014, and if automatic updates are disabled on computers, crucial software updates can be missed.



A SCHOOLGIRL wowed judges with her creativity to progress to the final of the UK's biggest story writing competition for children.

Cranford House pupil Ellen Roberts's story, titled Secrets in the Rainforest, made the top 25 of the age 10-13 category of the BBC's 500 Words competition.

The Year 6 pupil fought off more than 132,000 entries from across the UK to make next month's final.

Ellen can now look forward to the awards ceremony at the Tower of London, where she will rub shoulders with the likes of Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, DJ Chris Evans and former One Direction star Niall Horan.

Six other pupils from the school near Wallingford also progressed through the first round to the final 4,000.

The final on June 16 will be broadcast on the BBC Radio 2 Chris Evans Breakfast Show.

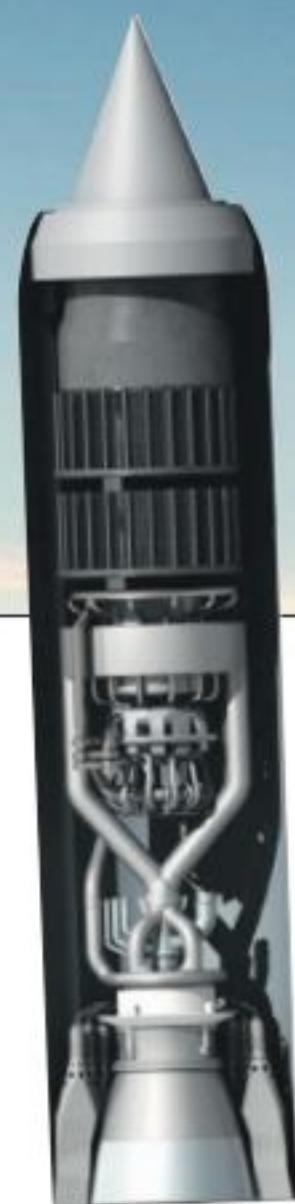


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From left, Alan Bond, Richard Varvill, Dr Chris Castelli, Franco Ongaro, Richard Harrington and Mark Thomas. Pictures: Reaction Engines

By George Welch

A CULHAM company developing a revolutionary rocket engine that could reach space in just 15 minutes has taken a major step forward with the construction of a new testing facility.

Reaction Engines' SABRE – or synthetic air-breathing rocket engine – will propel a plane at five times the speed of sound.

Harnessed to a 'Skylon' spaceplane it could fly to Australia in just four hours and reach New York in two.

Breaking ground at the new facility in Westcott, Buckinghamshire, Reaction CEO Mark Thomas said: "This is another exciting step forward and a visible demonstration of the UK's commitment to the programme.

"I look forward to com-

mencing our core engine testing, which will be a defining moment for aerospace."

The reusable Skylon would be capable of launching heavy telecommunications satellites.

It is claimed SABRE would offer a significant reduction in

propellant consumption and weight compared to conventional rocket engines that have to carry their own oxygen.

Developers plan to start testing it in 2020.

Franco Ongaro of the European Space Agency, said: "This will open the way to a new era."

News Bites

Car break-ins

DIDCOT: Thieves broke into three cars earlier this week.

Two vehicles in Brent Avenue – a Mini Cooper and a Mercedes – were targeted between 10pm on May 14 and 7am on May 15.

Messy searches took place and cash and food items were stolen.

Just after 3.30am on May 15 a Mondeo in Bowmont Water was broken into and a wallet, cash and a card were stolen.

Police are warning car owners not to leave items in their vehicle overnight.

Diesel delight

DIDCOT: Train enthusiasts should head to the railway centre this weekend for a heritage diesel day.

Passengers can board the diesel railcar to take a 1940s-style ride along the track and view other locomotives.

It takes place on Saturday and Sunday between 10.30am and 3.30pm.

Health AGM

DIDCOT: The health centre's patient participation group are holding their AGM next Wednesday.

Dr David Stainthorp will be speaking on the future changes to the centre in Britwell Road. All patients are invited to attend. It starts at 7.30pm. The aim of the group is to develop a dialogue between patients and the practice.

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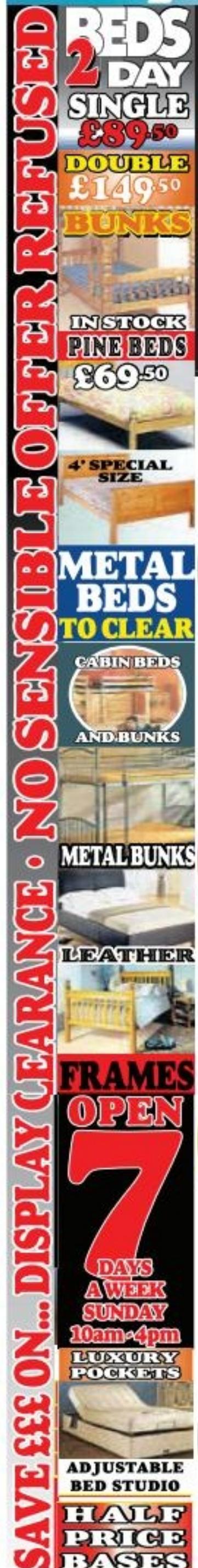
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Park rapist gets life for the second time

A 'PREDATORY' man who raped a woman in a park has been sent to prison for life – for a second time.

Mark Pearton, 44, attacked the woman as she was walking along Harcourt Hill in Botley on January 10. He then took his victim to Raleigh Park, where he raped her.

It was revealed he had previously been given a life sentence in 1999 for rape and was released in 2015.

Pearton pleaded guilty to rape, sexual assault by penetration and possession of a bladed or sharply pointed article on February 17 at Oxford Crown Court.

Pearton, of Cavendish Place, Eastbourne, East Sussex, was sentenced to life at Oxford Crown Court on Thursday, May 11.

Before the sentencing, senior investigating officer in the case, detective inspector Jim Holmes, said offenders are closely monitored after their release by probation officers until there are signs the risk of harm is reduced.

He added: "Some offenders are rehabilitated without committing another offence at all.

"[But] when you're dealing with an offender who is a



Rapist Mark Pearton got life



Detective Inspector Jim Holmes

manipulative individual who knows how the system works, they know how to show that the risk [in them reoffending] is reduced. I think Pearton is one of those people."

Officers were at the scene within 15 minutes after the victim alerted a member of the public who then called the police. They used a sex offence kit with swabs to be able to profile the DNA. Pearton was arrested and charged on January 13. DI Holmes said surrounding circumstances and CCTV evidence had to be looked at closely to determine who the offender was.

He said: "This was an unusual offence because of its random nature. Usually there is

something linking the offender to the victim or the location of the offence, but Pearton did not know the victim and had no ties to Oxford.

"Our intelligence team discovered that Pearton was living in Brighton so we worked with Sussex Police to arrest him and search his premises.

"During the search, Pearton was found to be in possession of pornography replicating scenes of rape, which was an aggravating feature in this case.

"Following his arrest, Pearton said the sexual activity with the victim was consensual and made no comment to most of the questions posed to him during police interviews."



Royals in the market for some cheese and chat

PRINCE Charles and The Duchess of Cornwall took in some of the sights and sounds of Oxford's Covered Market on Tuesday.

The pair visited local businesses and shops, tasting some of the food on offer and enjoying a tour of the eclectic market on a visit to the city.

Camilla also visited cancer support charity Maggie's at the Churchill Hospital, continuing her work for the cause she became president of in 2008.

During the visit she met people with cancer who visit the centre, staff, volunteers, NHS colleagues from the Churchill Hospital and the centre's architect, Chris Wilkinson.

She also observed a Talk-



ing Heads session, which supports those with hair loss, and a yoga class before touring of

the building.

Laura Lee, chief executive of Maggie's said: "It's always an honour to welcome Her Royal Highness The Duchess of

Cornwall to one of our centres.

"We're incredibly grateful for Her Royal Highness's continued support of Maggie's, her passion and commitment makes a real difference to those who visit and work in our Centres."

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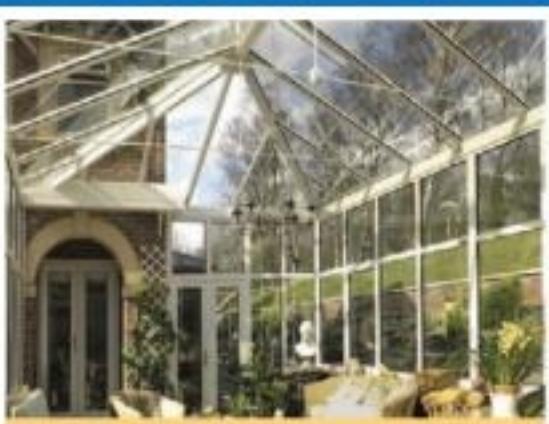
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Viking treasure's a pleasure to behold

AN age-old Viking hoard proved a feast for the eyes at a roadshow over the weekend.

People from all over Oxfordshire got a chance to see the treasure close up at Bicester Library on Saturday.

Selected pieces from a Viking find at Watlington in 2015 were on show thanks to a collaboration between the Ashmolean Museum and Oxfordshire Museum Service.

The free roadshow events include talks, displays of items from the hoard, and family-friendly craft activities at locations including Bicester, Faringdon and, of course, Watlington.

Gareth Williams, curator of early and medieval coinage and Viking collections at the British Museum, was also there to give a public lecture.

With more than 700 people contributing to an appeal, the Ashmolean Museum raised £1.35 million to purchase the hoard for the nation in 2015.

A Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £1.1 million was used to fund events like the roadshow.

Carol Anderson, Oxfordshire County Council's museums service manager, said: "We are delighted to be able to work with colleagues from the Ashmolean to take the hoard out into communities across Oxfordshire.

"This enables as many people as possible to see this remarkable find and learn more about its discovery and significance for the history of England."



Selection of items from the Watlington Hoard

© Trustees of the British Museum
Right, the Alfred Jewel, a gold, enamel and rock crystal, late 9th century.

© Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford



The Watlington Viking hoard comprises about 200 coins, seven items of jewellery and 15 ingots (bars of silver).

Although the find was not particularly large, it is hugely significant as it contains coins of Alfred the Great, King of Wessex, and Ceolwulf of Mercia, all of whom were important figures in Anglo-Saxon Viking history.

The hoard also contains rare 'Two Emperors' pennies, show-

ing the two kings seated side-by-side, suggesting an alliance between the kingdoms of Wessex and Mercia.

This challenges other accounts in written sources that suggested that Ceolwulf was just a 'puppet' of the Vikings.

BMW pension strikes on hold for ballot

STRIKES at the Oxford MINI Plant have been suspended while union members consider an offer from BMW bosses over a pensions dispute.

Two 24-hour strikes at the Cowley plant scheduled for today and Sunday have been suspended while workers at five BMW car plants are balloted on the offer.

Workers at the Cowley plant have walked out three times in April and May as part of the dispute.

The latest strike on Tuesday meant production at the MINI Plant was halted again over BMW's plans to scrap the final salary pension scheme workers are entitled to.

Unite national officer for BMW Fred Hanna said: "While Unite is not recommending the offer, as it will have different outcomes for different people and their pensions, members should be proud that by standing together they have forced BMW into making this offer.

"Without the action that Unite members have taken and the resolve they have shown in recent weeks, BMW would not have made this latest offer."

Unite members will be consulted and be able to have their say at workplace meetings 'over the coming days', Unite said.

It is expected the ballot on the offer will run from May 24 to June 9.

BMW were contacted for comment.

Parties reveal line-up for the snap election

POLITICAL parties have finalised the line up of their candidates who will be standing in next month's snap general election.

There are 21 days until voters head to the polls.

Parties had to officially nominate their candidates by Thursday last week.

Here is a list of the confirmed candidates:

Banbury

Conservative–Victoria Prentis
Labour–Sean Woodcock
Liberal Democrat–John Howson
UKIP–Dickie Bird
Green–Ian Middleton
Indpt–Roseanne Edwards

Henley

Conservative–John Howell
Labour–Oliver Kavanagh
Liberal Democrat–Laura Coyle
UKIP–Tim Scott
Green–Robin Bennett
Radical Party–Patrick Gray

Oxford East

Cons–Suzanne Bartington
Labour–Anneliese Dodds
Liberal Democrat–Kirsten Johnson
Green–Larry Sanders
Independent–Chaka Artwell

Oxford West and Abingdon

Conservative–Nicola Blackwood
Green–Claire Lasko

Labour–Marie Tidball
Liberal Democrat–Layla Moran
UKIP–Alan Harris

Wantage

Conservative–Ed Vaizey
Labour–Rachel Eden
Liberal Democrat–Chris Carrigan

Green Party–Sue Ap-Roberts
UKIP–Jack McLeod

Witney

Conservative–Robert Courts
Labour–Laetitia Carter
Liberal Democrat–Liz Leffman
UKIP–Alan Craig
Green–Claire Lasko

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Prime Minister's rough ride on campaign trail

By George Welch

VOTERS challenged Prime Minister Theresa May as she campaigned in Abingdon – the same day she announced a policy described as the “greatest extension of rights and protections for employees by any Conservative government”.

Mrs May joined Oxford West and Abingdon candidate Nicola Blackwood at Abingdon market on Monday, when the pair were confronted by an angry voter over disability cuts.

Cathy Mohan, who lives in the town and has mental health problems, told the Prime Minister: “I want you to do something for us... I’m talking about everybody that’s got mental health and who’s got learning disabilities.

“I want them not to have their money taken away from them and being crippled. The fat cats keep the money and us lot get nothing.

“I want my disability living allowance back. I can’t live on £100 a month.”

Mrs May who is standing in Maidenhead replied by saying her party has “a lot of plans for



Theresa May had an easier time at Tech Pixies

people with mental health”.

Ms Blackwood said: “At Abingdon market we met shop owners and stall holders many of whom were old friends... [including] Cathy, who made national news with her clear case, based on lived experience, for better care for those with mental health problems and learning disabilities.

“This is what elections are all about, hearing directly from local residents about the issues that matter most to them.”

Liberal Democrat candidate for Oxford West and Abingdon, Layla Moran, said the confrontation proves Mrs May “just doesn’t care about people like Cathy”.

Mrs May’s battle bus clocked up more miles when the Prime Minister visited Oxford Business Park, in Cowley, to meet staff and bosses from technology firms before she spoke to Abingdon residents.

She used her visit to Oxford to announce a ‘new deal for

workers’, which will be part of the Conservative manifesto and would be offered should her party be re-elected.

The new deal would include protections for people in the ‘gig economy’, a statutory right to leave for those who need to care for a family member and a commitment to further increases in the national living wage.

She said: “Our plans will be the greatest expansion in workers’ rights by any Conservative government in history.”

‘Ruthless’ predator jailed for sex crimes

A ‘RUTHLESS’ predator who targeted and sexually assaulted vulnerable elderly women has been sentenced to eight years behind bars.

Richard Sallet, 64, from Rugby, Warwickshire, pleaded guilty to inappropriately touching women in Oxfordshire and other areas of the country.

One of the attacks took place in Botley on April 27 last year.

Sallet sexually assaulted other women last year in Halesowen, west Midlands, on March 8; Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, on May 3; and Greens Norton, Northamptonshire, on May 19.

Another offence in Hethel, north Oxfordshire, on August 12, 2015 was laid on file.

On each occasion Sallet trespassed on to the properties of elderly women in order to sexually assault them.

Jeremy Taylor, senior crown prosecutor for Thames and Chiltern Crown Prosecution Service, said Sallet attended the Botley home claiming he wanted to carry out a survey.

“He said he needed to use the bathroom and when she found him in her son’s bedroom he forced her on to the bed.

“Sallet targeted [all] the women due to their vulnerability, and planned his attacks. He is clearly a calculated, ruthless



Sexual predator Richard Sallet and dangerous man.”

Sallet, who was identified through phone billing enquiries and forensic examinations, initially denied any wrongdoing but pleaded guilty to four counts of sexual assault at Oxford Crown Court on March 24 due to the strength of evidence against him.

Investigating officer detective constable Richard Lewis of Force CID, said: “This was a very disturbing series of sexual assaults where Richard Sallet has trespassed into the victims’ homes to carry out the offences.

“Sallet targeted his victims, who were all vulnerable, elderly women living on their own.”

Sallet was sentenced at Oxford Crown Court on Thursday last week. At a previous hearing on March 24 at the same court he pleaded guilty to four counts of sexual assault on a female over 16.

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Finn the fighter provides the inspiration for kayak quest

By George Welch

A MAN will paddle through Oxford in a kayak as part of a 150-mile fundraising mission after losing his baby to a heart condition.

Adam Castleton, 29, from Wallingford, wants to raise £10,000 as a tribute to his son Finn and fund research for the British Heart Foundation.

Finn was born in June 2015 but died less than six months later.



But thanks to advanced medical research Mr Castleton and his wife Amalie were able to spend time with him being a normal family.

Mr Castleton, who will complete the challenge with a group of friends, said: "Finn's life was tragically short.

"But it is thanks to pioneering medical research that we got to spend time with him, getting to know him, and creating everlasting memories.

"Finn was a fighter and he gave me the inspiration to do anything I can to help find better treatment for what takes so many innocent young lives."

Two years on from his son's birth Mr Castleton and nine friends will start their journey from Lechlade, Gloucestershire, on June 17 – Finn's birthday – and arrive at London's Tower Bridge five days later.

The 10 kayak novices will paddle down the River Thames from the Summertown area, arriving in Oxford at the end of day one.

The group plans to cover 30 miles a day, stopping at six towns and navigating 45 locks.



Adam Castleton is kayaking the length of the River Thames in memory of his son Finn

Mr Castleton, who now has a seven-month-old son called Jesse Finn, said: "Every day, 12 babies are diagnosed with a congenital heart defect. Their families will live with an uncertain future.

"Nobody should have to send their newborn for heart surgery, list their child for transplant, or withdraw life support."

Poppy Hanbury, BHF fundraising manager for Oxford-

shire and Buckinghamshire, said: "We're incredibly grateful to Adam for taking on this incredible challenge."

So, far £3,657 has been raised. To donate, visit kayakthethames.com

Thousands of scouts coming to Blenheim

MORE than 3,000 scouts from all across the world are expected to camp out together and create 'lasting memories' during a special event that takes place every four years.

OxonJam, which promotes scouting worldwide, brings together different nationalities and groups of scouts from the age of six upwards for a weekend full of activities.

Members of the Scout Association will be camping in tents in the grounds of the world heritage site Blenheim Palace for three nights over the May bank holiday weekend.

The event, run by more than 1,000 adult scouting volunteers, has been planned for the past two years and includes activities such as abseiling and zorbing.

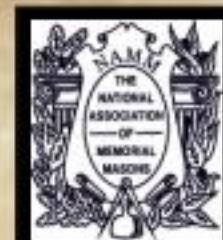
OxonJam will also be working alongside charities such as WaterAid, Oxfam and the Guide Dogs for The Blind Association to encourage the young participants to engage with charitable causes.

Eleven-year-old Freddie Janks, a Scout from Wantage, said: "I have been looking forward to OxonJam for ages.

"I can't wait to try out a load of new exciting activities and I'm really looking forward to meeting up and making friends with other scouts from other countries and learning about how they live."

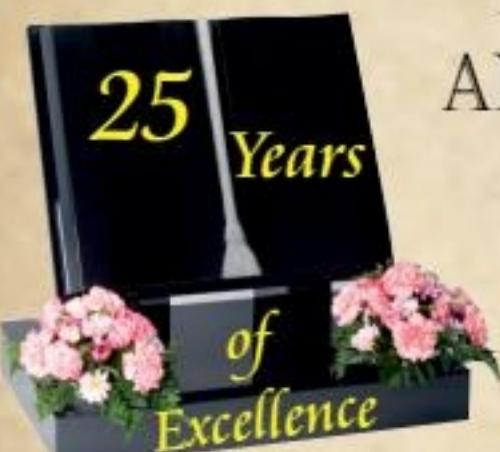
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Support the Oxfordshire Guardian's charity of the year - Play2Give

Help families to stay with sick children at hospital



Getting rough for first fundraising challenge

OXFORD Children's Hospital will benefit from the fundraising efforts of a team of public relations staff willing to tackle 10km of punishing obstacles for ill children.

Chesterton-based PR firm CubanEight announced the hospital as its chosen charity for 2017 last month – and they kicked off their campaign with the challenge of a Rough Runner event in Chipping Norton on Saturday.

Rough Runner is an obstacle course combining distance running with a variety of obstacles along the way.

CubanEight said it would carry out a variety of activities and initiatives to raise money and awareness for the charity throughout the year.

Sian Gaskell, managing director and founder, said:

"This is the first time we've officially selected a charity of the year at CubanEight.

"We've done lots for different charities in the past, but this year the team wanted to commit to giving dedicated support year-round.

"Some of our team have had personal experiences with the hospital, having people close to them benefitting from its services. It's such a vital place for so many people – we are now more motivated than ever to raise as much as we can."

All of the funds raised will go towards Oxford Children's Hospital's 10th anniversary appeal, which is aiming to raise £2million during 2017.

The team has raised more than £1,000 so far. To donate, visit justgiving.com/fundraising/CubanEight.

By George Welch

FAMILIES staying in accommodation at a specialist children's hospital in Oxford are in 'urgent' need of daily essential items.

Ronald McDonald House, based at Oxford Children's Hospital, is a 'home from home' for parents and families while their ill children receive treatment.

Our charity of the year, fundraising group Play2Give (P2G), is leading the charge to appeal to Oxfordshire residents to help with its latest appeal.

Staff at Ronald McDonald House have drawn up a list of required items – known as the 'Amazon wish list' – and people can donate items online.

Among other things, crockery, bedding and washing materials are all needed as soon as possible.

Ronald McDonald House currently only has 17 bedrooms and demand always far exceeds the amount of families they can help.

Fundraiser Caroline Sinclair



An artist's impression of the proposed new accommodation

said: "The wish list is a hassle-free way of donating the items the charity needs most urgently. Many people don't realise we exist as a charity until they actually need to use us."

Planning permission was secured for a new purpose-built, three-storey, 62-bedroomed house in 2016, which, once opened, will be situated on the John Radcliffe site near the women's centre.

The cost is likely to be in the region of £11m but building will not begin until the money has been raised.

The charity is currently running a 10th birthday campaign to raise £2m this year – £1m of which will be for equipment for the hospital and £1m towards the new house.

The charity is currently unable to say when it will open.

For 28-year-old Andy Baker, founder of P2G, neither the Children's Hospital or Ronald McDonald House existed when he required treatment in his childhood.

He said: "When I was treated [in 2001] and spent time on the old children's wards

spread between (at the time) the RI and the JR, no such 'fantastic family accommodation' existed.

"However, the new purpose built facility to come will be even better, brighter and more vibrant.

"So in 2017 and continuing 2018, we hope we can just do our 'little bit' for the house, and through receiving donations from their 'wish list' of the essential items they need."

To help with the wish list, and support P2G's latest appeal, visit amzn.eu/gJA9Wyz

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Businesses honoured at awards

BUSINESSES from across Cherwell have been recognised at the sixth annual awards ceremony.

Among the winners was a gourmet cafe, a funeral director and a charity that supports people with cancer.

The Cherwell Business Awards took place earlier this month at Heythrop Park, with finalists competing across 11 categories.

Edd Frost and Daughters funeral directors took the Cherwell business of the year award, while the Hummingbird Centre, which supports people in Bicester and surrounding villages who are battling cancer, topped the charity and community category.

Bicester cafe Savoir Fare scooped the micro business award and Social Sidekick took best apprenticeship. Cllr Lynn Pratt, Cherwell's lead member for estates and the economy, said: "Cherwell District Council is extremely proud

to have been headline sponsor for these important awards.

"They are a fantastic way of celebrating the innovation, commitment and talent that makes north Oxfordshire's such a thriving and dynamic economy – and encouraging more of it!

"The awards ceremony was a great evening of networking and will have helped forge new links throughout the business community, which we hope will fuel further innovation and entrepreneurial endeavour over the coming years."

Other winners included Bicester womenswear store Options Boutique, which took the Retail Award, Employer of the Year went to Hawkins Group of Companies and the Innovation and Creativity award went to Ethos Technology Ltd.

Chris Maynard, of Castle Minibus, picked up Business Person of the Year.

A raffle raised £1,500 for The Hummingbird Centre.



Mayor Tom Wyse and deputy Linda Emery with the winning flag design by Hazel Mann

Winning flag design set to fly

THE winner of a competition to design a new flag for Thame has been announced.

Hazel Mann's creation was chosen by councillors for its modern look, which reflected the town council's website.

Ms Mann said the wavy lines represented the natural elements that surround Thame – the blue line was the River Thame, the white line the Phoenix Trail and the green

line the countryside. Ms Mann said she was "excited and proud" to win the design competition.

The new flag will be flown outside the Town Hall throughout the year, except when the flagpole is being used to mark special and significant occasions.

A total of 33 designs were submitted from entrants across the town. The only

requirement was that the design incorporated the town council branding colours and town logo or crest.

The winning design was chosen at the annual town meeting from a shortlist of four.

In a statement the council said it was "really impressed with all of the designs" and thanked everyone who entered.

The flag will be made in the next few weeks.

News Bites

Markets boost

THAME: The town's charter market is taking part in a national drive to support local markets.

Love Your Local Market, which runs until the end of May, is urging people to use social media to promote their local market.

Thame's weekly market, which dates back to 1183, is asking people to 'like' its Facebook page and hopes to reach 1,000 by the end of the campaign.

Vote registration

N OXON: Residents are being reminded they have until May 22 to ensure they have registered to vote in June 8's general election.

Postal voters should apply by 5pm on May 23.

Postal votes will be delivered between May 25 and 30.

To register to vote view gov.uk/register-to-vote

Telecom views

THAME: Residents are being urged to take part in a four-week consultation over proposals to install a "telecommunications structure" at Southern Road Recreation Ground.

For more information drop into the town council's office.



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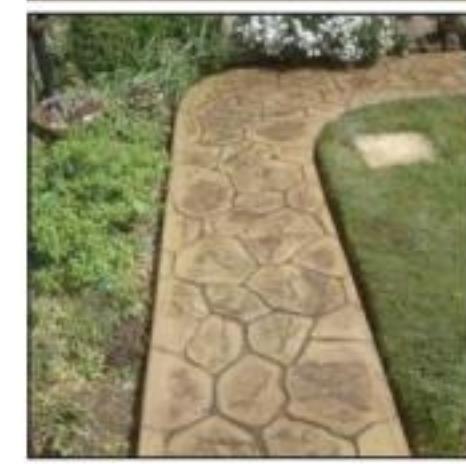
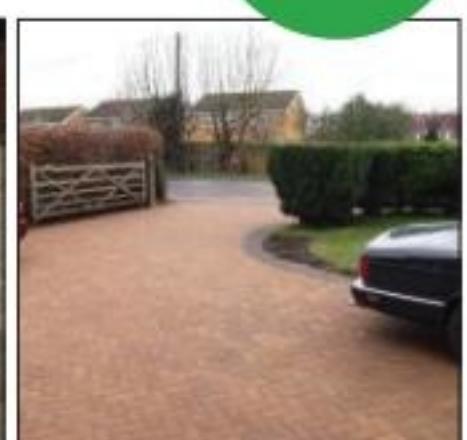
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'Moving' visit from Holocaust survivor

A HOLOCAUST survivor paid a 'moving' visit to students with autism to share his story and help them make a 'positive difference' in their own lives.

Students from LVS Oxford welcomed Rudi Oppenheimer, who survived horrific conditions and lost his parents.

The visit last Tuesday was organised with the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET), to educate students who are studying for their history GCSE.

While many students with autism find it difficult to focus for long periods, the entire

school fell silent as the 86-year-old retold his experience.

Mr Oppenheimer said: "The main lesson I am hoping they take from it is that people should speak up for themselves when they see injustice being done. If people would have spoken up at that time, things could have been different."

Rudi and his family fled Germany for Holland in 1936 to avoid persecution, only to be captured two years later.

He and his brother, Paul, were liberated in April the same year.

The visit at LVS was organised as part of a wider outreach programme.

Head of school at LVS Oxford, Louisa Allison-Bergin, said: "We want to ensure our young people are educated about important topics so this visit was one which they were all able to get a lot of value from.

"The visit was especially beneficial for our GCSE history students who are studying Germany and World War II for whom Rudi's vivid recollections will provide lots to think about and take in."



Rudi speaking to the pupils at LVS Oxford

Restaurant owner fined after diners get food poisoning from 'risky' liver

By Eva Astreinidou

A RESTAURANT owner was ordered to pay over £9,800 for serving undercooked calves' liver.

The director of The Golden Ball in Lower Assendon, Henley-on-Thames, appeared at Oxford Magistrates' Court where he pleaded guilty to two food safety charges on May 11.

Stephen Luscombe admitted serving high risk food

on the premises and failing to implement and maintain legally required food safety procedures.

As a result of his early plea, the deputy district judge gave Mr Luscombe a reduced fine of £4,434 – but he was also ordered to pay £5,284 costs and a victim surcharge of £120.

Magistrates heard how, in September 2015, South Oxfordshire District Council was asked to investigate after a

member of the public was confirmed to have campylobacter food poisoning.

The individual had eaten at The Golden Ball two weeks earlier.

A fellow diner also had food poisoning, while several others had experienced symptoms.

Environmental health officers carried out an immediate unannounced inspection and found that the diners had been offered a set menu includ-

ing calves' liver for the main course.

Liver is a well-known potential source of campylobacter food poisoning, but the restaurant had no written protocol to ensure that high-risk items were cooked properly.

It had also failed to complete required monitoring records for almost three months, failing to meet its legal requirements for food safety.

After the unannounced

inspection, the restaurant received a food hygiene rating of one.

Following significant work to improve its food safety operations and staff training, the restaurant has since been re-inspected and now has a rating of five.

Diane Moore, food and safety manager at South Oxfordshire District Council, said: "This case demonstrates how important it is for businesses to follow

food hygiene rules and make sure food is safe to eat.

"Liver is a well-publicised potential source of campylobacter food poisoning, which in some cases can be fatal.

"It is essential that high risk products like this are thoroughly cooked.

"In this case, the liver had been cooked at too low a temperature with no regard given to very clear warnings from the Food Standards Agency."

56
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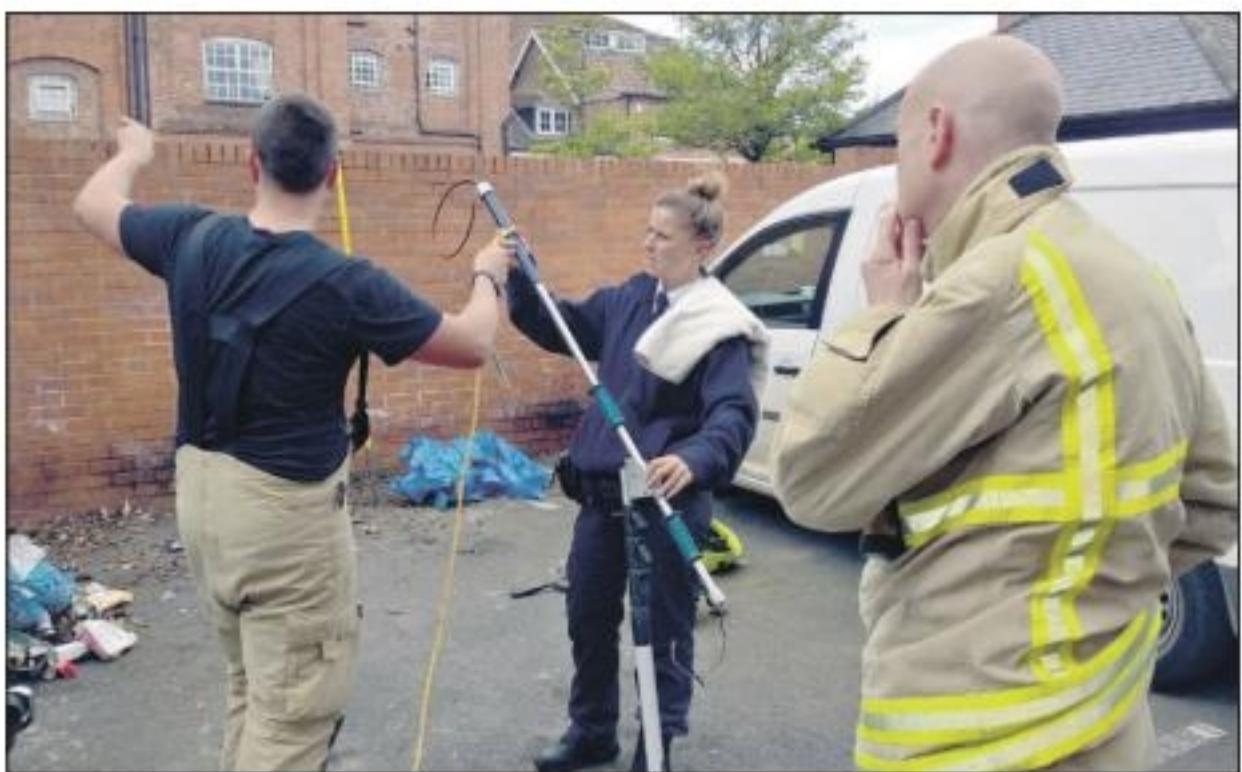
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Left, rescuers get out the pole to free the trapped deer, and right, the deer can just be made out above the rubbish

Oh deer! Trapped animal rescued from narrow gap

By Eva Astreinidou

A DEER was rescued from a tight squeeze after being found trapped between two walls in Abingdon.

Firefighters and the RSPCA leapt into action after a member of the public spotted the animal wedged in the small gap in Draymans Walk surrounded by discarded rubbish.

RSPCA animal collection officer Grace Mead was able to free the deer from a 30cm-

wide gap between a two-metre high brick wall and a brick-built bin store.

A dog catcher pole was used to help the deer out before it released itself and ran off.

Ms Mead said: "The deer was trapped in a very small space between two brick walls next to a bin store.

"We initially didn't think he was able to move or turn around to set himself free and thought we'd have to remove the breeze blocks. But thank-

fully we were able to free him uninjured by coaxing him back out.

"It was great to see him run off freely back to where he belongs.

"We've since spoken to the council who intend to block up the gap to stop any other animals getting trapped and to stop the fire risk from the rubbish building up."

Incident commander Neil Priestley said: "The deer had been stuck all morning and

had become very tired and distressed.

"We attended a wide range of animal rescues and are used to working closely with the RSPCA.

"On this occasion we used equipment normally used for water rescues and rescues from height to free the animal.

"I have no idea how the animal got in there, but it was a great outcome to see the deer released without injury."

Help change a young person's life - sign up to be a foster carer

OXFORDSHIRE residents are being asked to consider transforming their lives - and those of vulnerable children - by becoming a foster carer.

Oxfordshire County Council is appealing for more people to come forward during national Foster Care Fortnight.

The council currently has more than 230 registered foster carers looking after children in the county but carers are needed to home more children.

Fostering service manager Teresa Rogers said: "The need to recruit new foster carers is an ongoing challenge for all councils.

"In Oxfordshire we have seen the number of looked-after children increasing in recent years and the majority of these will, at some point, need a foster home.

"Although we are able to provide a foster placement for every child who needs one, like many other councils we often have to call on external agency providers - sometimes based outside the county.

"Wherever possible we want our children to stay close to family, friends and local schools as this helps provide the stability that they need."

At the end of March 2016 there were 592 children in care across Oxfordshire and at the end of March this year there were 672.

There are currently 470 Oxfordshire children in a foster placement, 140 of which have been homed by external agencies.

Foster carer Shirley Gelleburn looks after two children with additional needs in Banbury.

She said: "I never saw myself as a carer of anyone with additional needs. I had always seen parents of these children as superhuman with special skills and thought I could never do that, to be that good.

"I thought I wasn't skilled enough but no one starts off with those skills, they are skills that grow from being an advocate for your child.

"It turns out the only skills I needed to have to care for a child with additional needs was patience, empathy and the drive to do my best. You don't have to be superhuman, you just have to want to make a difference."

Contact fostering@oxfordshire.gov.uk for more information.

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Councillors Tom Wyse and Linda Emery



Banbury's new mayor Councillor Colin Clarke

Mayors pledge to make difference

NEW mayors have been welcomed in communities across Oxfordshire.

Banbury's new mayor Cllr Colin Clarke says he will put his "heart and soul" into helping the town's charities and good causes.

Cllr Clarke began his second term as town mayor at an inauguration ceremony at the town hall last week when he took over from outgoing mayor Cllr Gordon Ross.

Cllr Clarke was previously mayor in 2010/2011.

He said: "I didn't expect to get

a second year in office but the opportunity has come along and I am very happy to accept the honour.

"We all know how much good work – often unrewarded – goes on within our many charitable organisations and community groups and I will make every effort to support these good causes."

The new deputy mayor is Cllr Shaida Hussain. She said: "This will be a new experience for me. I will do my best to uphold the office in a proper manner – and

I'm looking forward to the year ahead."

At Thame's annual town meeting, Cllr Tom Wyse was elected as mayor. He said: "My aim is to try to bring some new ideas to the town."

Cllr Linda Emery was elected as deputy mayor following her year as Mayor of Thame, which she described as a 'life changing experience'.

Thame's mayor has yet to announce which charities he will support in the coming year.

New MD at council's self-build operation

By Samantha McGregor

A NEW managing director has been appointed to run the council-operated Graven Hill self-build development.

Karen Curtin will take on the role from July. The former Cherwell District Council finance chief has stood in twice before.

Former MoD land at Graven Hill will become the UK's largest self-build development with 1,900 homes, a pub, schools and shops as well as a million square feet of commercial space.

The announcement comes as the site's 'Plot Shop', which is based in Pioneer Square, opened its doors.

Miss Curtin, currently commercial director for Cherwell district and South Northamptonshire councils, said: "I am delighted to be joining the company at such an exciting time in its development.

"On the housing side there is a great deal of interest, not only in the plot sales but also in the brand new range of homes that can be customised.

"Later this year it is also

expected that we will open the showhomes and the first residents will move on to the development.

"From a business perspective, I am encouraged to see that there has been a significant amount of interest in the commercial land.

"I have always been proud of the vision held by Cherwell District Council, which was to give people a real opportunity to create quality homes that are tailored to their lifestyles."

Channel Four's Grand Designs is filming 10 people who are building their dream home at the site.

News Bites

Homes plan

BICESTER: Plans to build 180 homes at Gavray Drive, Langford Village, have been recommended for approval today.

Gallagher Estates want outline planning permission for the seven-hectare site. The application includes public amenity space, recreation areas and flood storage compensation works.

The site has a controversial background – it previously had planning approval for 500 homes but ecologist Dominic Woodfield

had it quashed after concerns were raised about rare wildlife.

A campaign was also launched to designate it a nature reserve.

Life's a beach

BICESTER: Hundreds of people attended the launch of Bicester Healthy town on Saturday to enjoy a host of free activities.

These included a beach in Market Square complete with sandcastle contest, health walks and cycle rides, outdoor gym, cafe, bike MOTs and table tennis.

Bicester has been awarded healthy town status thanks to the work being done at the eco town to encourage sustainable and healthy living.

Conversion bid

BICESTER: Proposals to convert a kitchen and bathroom shop in Churchill Road into eight houses and flats has been recommended for approval.

Cherwell district councillors are due to decide the planning application tonight.

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN FESTIVAL ON TOUR

The Pirates of Penzance
6pm, Friday 7th July

HMS PINAFORE
6pm, Saturday 8th July

THE MIKADO
2pm, Sunday 9th July

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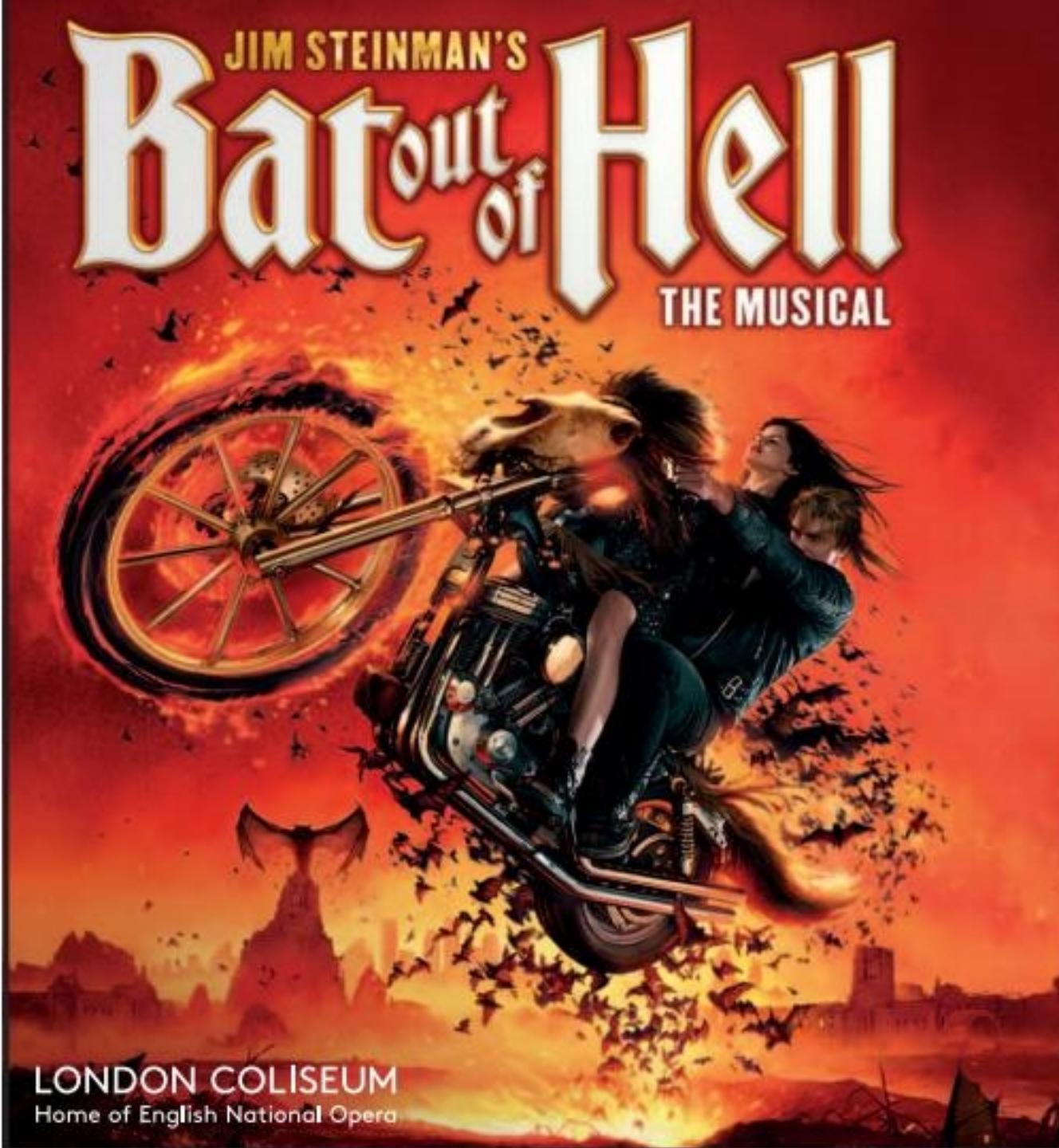
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Competition



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BAT OUT OF HELL is the breathtaking new musical that tears through Jim Steinman and Meat Loaf's greatest hits including I'd Do Anything for Love, Paradise by the Dashboard Light, Dead Ringer For Love, Two Out of Three Ain't Bad and Bat Out of Hell.

The musical critics are calling 'THE SHOW TO SEE IN 2017' (Daily Telegraph, Mail on Sunday, Manchester Evening News) plays the London Coliseum for a strictly limited season from 5 June.

Q. Bat Out of Hell contains songs written by Jim Steinman and performed by which famous singer?

A. Freddie Mercury B. Ozzy Osbourne C. Meat Loaf

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to
www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

For full terms & conditions go to www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk/about-us

Four prizes available consisting of one pair of tickets to Bat out of Hell The Musical at the London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4ES. Tickets are valid for Monday - Thursday evening performances only, from Tuesday 6 June - Monday 19 June 2017. Thursday matinee is included. Tickets are strictly subject to availability and non-transferable. No cash alternative is available. Any additional expenses incurred over and above the prize element must be covered by the winner. The cost of travel is not included in the prize.

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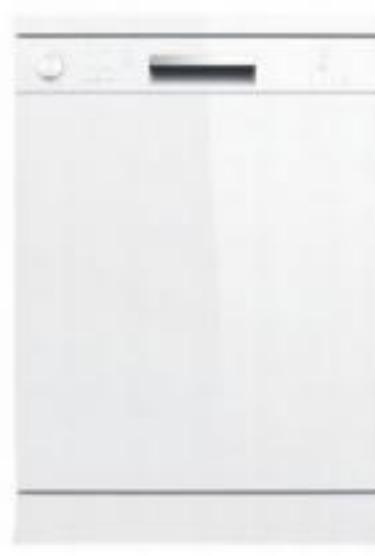
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"I honestly believe that Colourfence is the best general purpose fencing product on the market today!"

Spring into Action

Now's the perfect time to replace your garden fence once and for all. Anna Ryder Richardson - Designer and Television Presenter - takes a closer look at Colourfence, the revolutionary low-maintenance system.

It's been ten years since I regularly graced TV screens helping transform people's living spaces with MDF and stripped floorboards. Recently it's been more "celebrity muck out" than "celebrity make-over" as I took up the challenge of owning my own Wildlife Zoo in Tenby. In this time I've learnt quite a lot about fences and having researched the various options for my own benefit I thought I would share my knowledge with a wider audience.

The latest design processes

mean there is now a tremendous array of fencing products for you to choose from, constructed from a variety of materials. Each has its own attributes, and ultimately it can often come down to a matter of personal preference. For me, there was one unique system that stood out as providing the best balance between price and functionality which eradicates fencing problems for good. Or for at least 25 years. Colourfence. For quality, value, longevity, aesthetic design, this fencing system ticks all the boxes. Fencing made for

the 21st century that will transform the look of your garden which is supplied and fitted by a company whose customer service is as good as the product.

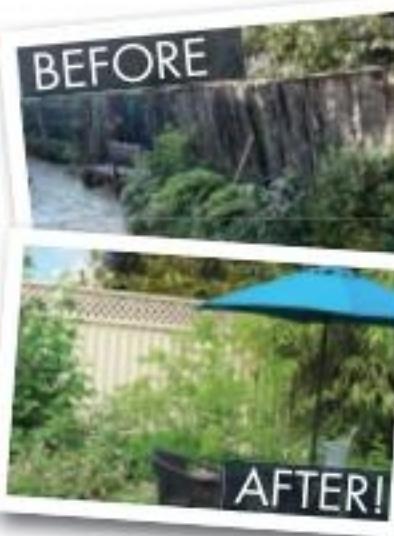
In my view, Colourfence is the 'Rolls Royce' of fencing - just without the exclusive price tag. What's more, it's guaranteed to stay in place in up to 130mph winds and is virtually maintenance free.

To find out how the experts from Colourfence might help you, I suggest you call 01865 582 171 and speak to their team.

Colourfence: The ultimate garden fence?

For many Colourfence is perhaps the ultimate choice. For the last 15 years it's been widely used across the UK and has steadily gained a reputation for its quality. By using the highest specification Colorbond steel in the fence structure itself, complemented by the highest level of customer service from accredited Franchisees, Colourfence is now regarded by many as the premier fencing solution in the market. Immune to the rot and resistant to the weather that so quickly effects wooden fences, Colourfence has none of the drawbacks of wood - plenty of additional benefits and what's more it's better value!

Call 01865 582 171 for more information



Gardeners' Questions

Q Wooden fence panels just don't seem to last - is there a storm resistant alternative?

A The Colourfence system has been tested under cyclonic conditions to withstand storms with wind gusts up to 130mph. Unlike your wooden fence - once professionally installed - Colourfence really will stay up!

Q No matter what I treat my wooden fence with - nothing seems to prevent it rotting or looking shabby for very long.

A Treating your fence is a thankless and expensive task. It's also a losing battle. Wood simply wants to rot. Colourfence offers a low-maintenance alternative where by an occasional wash down will keep it looking great for up to 25 years! GUARANTEED!†



THIS WEEK'S JOB

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Step into Spring - with COLOURFENCE

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Every gardener knows that it pays to plan ahead. If you are one of the thousands of people who watched helpless, as winter winds battered their garden, it will not be a surprise that garden fences are almost always the first casualty. Whether you have previously patched, painted or simply prayed to keep your fence going, there's no escaping the fact that timber fences will always fall victim to the weather. With Colourfence you can put your garden straight once and for all. Colourfence is scientifically tested and cyclonically rated to ensure when professionally installed, it can withstand wind gusts of up to

130mph. Once it's up - it stays up and is guaranteed to look good year after year. Safe, extra secure and hassle free - you will NEVER need to paint it, treat it or patch it. An occasional hose down will be all you need to do to keep it in top condition for years to come. In fact the system is so durable that Colourfence will guarantee† their fencing to last at least 25 years. Available in a range of colours to suit any garden, with or without decorative trellis, the highly skilled installation team make short work of their dramatic transformations. Your sad old fence will be elegantly cleared and replaced, leaving you to get

back to enjoying your rejuvenated garden. Pricing is just as straightforward and equally attractive. Starting costs are in line with inferior timber systems but with no annual treatments required, Colourfence saves you time and money each and every year. Their aim is your peace of mind. With a 25 year guarantee† Colourfence speaks for itself and promises a lifetime of hassle-free enjoyment.

For more information and to arrange a FREE no obligation site visit simply call one of their helpful team on 01865 582 171.

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Puzzles



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Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

- 1 Caught (7)
- 2 Branching out (6)
- 5 Demand as a right (5)
- 8 Border (4)
- 9 Turned down (8)
- 10 Annulments (13)
- 13 Unemployed (4)
- 14 Vehicles (4)
- 17 Festivals that end Christmas periods (7,6)
- 19 Accumulated wealth (8)
- 20 Region (4)
- 21 Breathes deeply (5)
- 22 Maintains (7)

Quick Clues Down

- 2 Perforated (7)
- 3 List of members (9)
- 4 Peak (5)
- 6 Writers (7)
- 7 Unassuming manner (7)
- 11 Those who rise (9)
- 12 Moves round axis (7)
- 13 Mass of ice in sea (7)
- 15 Reclassify (7)
- 16 Road (6)
- 18 Clenched hands (5)

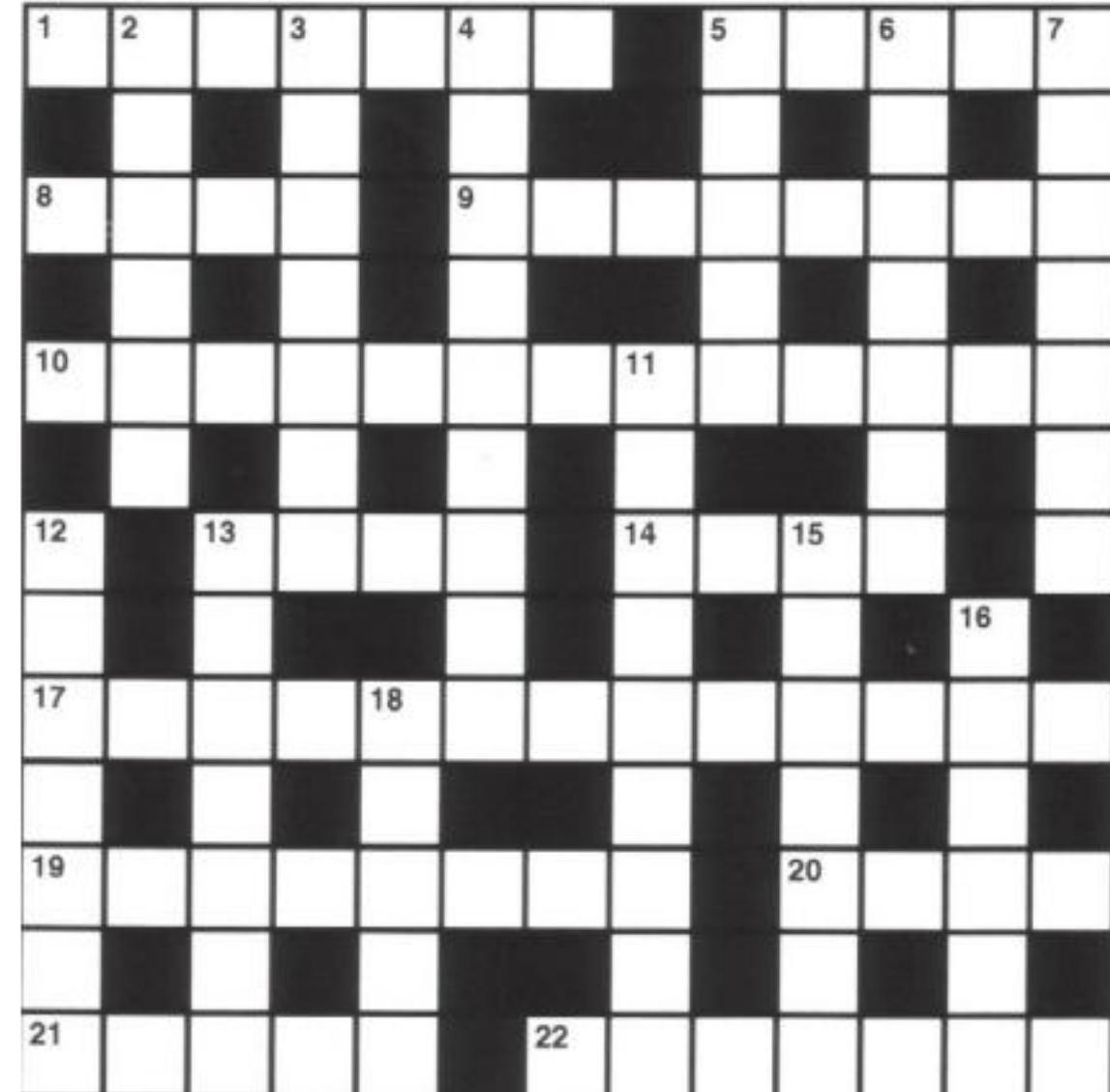
Scribble space

Cryptic Clues Across

- 1 When no longer admired, fashion can be a scandal (7)
- 5 Writers on horseback? (5)
- 8 Hot air without a cheek (4)
- 9 A division about a unifying agent can cause debate (8)
- 10 Tie her apparel in a different way for an artistic result (13)
- 13 There's endless danger for a fairy (4)
- 14 A trick for us excluding one part (4)
- 17 Restrictive practices that unknown about fifty has (13)
- 19 In it I dined as a newcomer (8)
- 20 Maintain the stronghold (4)
- 21 Supported at length (5)
- 22 Sets back round Rhodesia's manifesto and considers (7)

Cryptic Clues Down

- 2 Holds forth, but with hesitation after a better man (6)
- 3 Feeling of repentance about having upset the old customs? (7)
- 4 Fighting - with iron it could capture a ship (9)
- 5 Give shelter to a family (5)
- 6 Undershirt for the scientist who exchanges the beginning of taste for its end (7)
- 7 Can't they stand up to being portrayed? (7)
- 11 Mere rearrangement in factor could produce harmony (9)
- 12 Could I be last to act like an animal? (7)
- 13 Leaving some of the upset gin behind (7)
- 15 Aghast that it's nearly all in pawn (7)
- 16 Stick to the fact that the present day has arrived? (6)
- 18 I am in an inquisitive state and causing an uproar (5)



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Puzzles



Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids that compose the grid (also called "boxes", "blocks", "regions", or "sub-squares") contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid, which for a well-posed puzzle has a unique solution.

EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

8				6		9	2	
1	5					7	4	
		7	1		3		6	
	1	6				9		
3	9		5	2		6	4	
	7			4	8			
4	2		5	7				
8	3					1	5	
6	9		2			3		

1	9				6	7
5						2
2	6	7			4	
	8	3	5	1		9
3	5	1	9	2	6	
	1	9		2		
6	7	4	8			
8				3	5	
7	4					5

9				4		
5			1			3
2	1			8	7	
		2			7	3
3					1	
9	6			5		
	5	8		3	6	
4			7		2	5
	6			1	5	

This week's solutions

8	3	2	6	4	1	9	5	7
6	4	9	5	7	3	8	1	2
1	7	5	8	2	9	3	6	4
3	6	5	7	1	4	9	8	2
9	6	7	1	3	5	4	2	8
2	5	3	4	8	7	1	9	6
4	1	8	2	9	6	5	7	3
2	3	6	5	7	2	1	6	4
4	0	8	3	5	9	7	1	2

5	6	9	8	2	1	4	7	3
7	8	3	5	7	1	4	9	6
4	1	2	3	5	9	4	8	2
6	7	5	1	9	4	8	3	2
3	9	8	5	7	2	1	6	4
2	4	3	6	5	7	1	9	8
1	5	6	2	3	9	7	4	1
9	2	7	1	4	9	8	2	3
5	8	4	7	1	2	6	3	9

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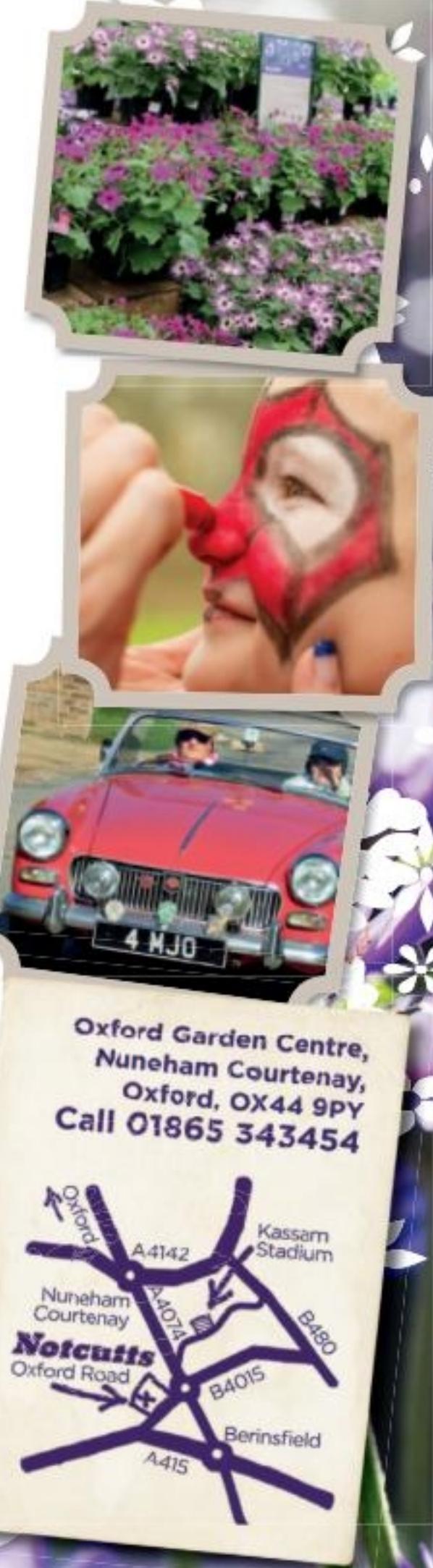
If you're not a member yet, you can still get 20% off when you join instore during our birthday event.

Celebrate our birthday with us and enjoy:

- **Free gardening talk by Robert Longstaff on Saturday at 10am and 3pm****
- **Live music by Gary Hourne all weekend**
- **Face painting 11am - 3pm all weekend**
- **Classic car display on weekend afternoons**
- **Children's fairground ride all weekend**
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**To secure a place on the talk, please book online on the Notcutts Oxford Centre Events Page at: www.notcutts.co.uk.



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01235 771772 | www.reedswantage.comColours mixed on site. Excludes White B/White & Magnolia. For more details see www.reedswantage.com/termsandconditions**OUT OF BOUNDS COMEDY.CO.UK****SATURDAY 20 MAY 2017**

Comedy starts at 8.00pm SHARP – ends by 11.00pm

*The Northcourt, Northcourt Rd, Abingdon, OX14 1PL**Comperer*

Stan Stanley is a warm and genial comic with brilliant timing, who delivers smart, satirical observations that have more of an edge than their light-hearted handling and delivery suggest. TV appearances include *Russell* and *Howards Good News* - BBC2 and *Comedy Cuts* - BBC3.

"Stan and deliver! Stan Stanley can shake a crowd with his energetic pace." *Daily Telegraph*
"Smart and shameless the crowd devours his observations on popular culture." *The Stage*



Jeremy O'Donnell mixes sharp one liners with friendly story telling and sparkling off the cuff wit. His cheeky smile and friendly nature have endeared him to audiences all over Britain and as far afield as Berlin, Bahrain, Paris and Zurich.
"Lightning fast" *Evening Standard*
"A natural comedian" *South London Press*
"Best act of the night, by far, was Jeremy O'Donnell. Cutting edge funny" *The Daily Mirror*

Headline Act

Bennett Aron is the only Jewish/Welsh Comedian on the Comedy Circuit. His humour is a cross between the paranoid angst of Max Boyce and the colloquial valley humour of Woody Allen. His television and radio performing credits include; *Not Tonight With John Sergeant*, *Glee Time* (in which he hosted a series of six stand-up comedy shows) and most recently he was a Presenter on *Big Brother's Little Brother*. Bennett is currently working on a new sitcom for the BBC and recently supported Ricky Gervais on some of his tour dates.

"Genuinely original and funny" - *The Times*
"Hilarious... clever wit... razor sharp" - *The Standard*

18+

Tickets
£10
In advance!
£12
On the Door!Email
northcourtcomedy@gmail.com
Or call
01235 856076
Or go to
www.wegottickets.comShort spots
Two shorter spots in the middle sectionRichard
Lindsey

Ed Pownall

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Content: This performance will contain some adult humour as well as occasional bad language.

Management Disclaimer: Please note - that while we make every effort, shows can change without notice due to unforeseen circumstances and commitments of artists.

ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

INCLUDES
YOUR FREE
WEEKEND
TV GUIDE

Fluttering into the fringe

Juliette Burton will be looking at the butterfly effect when she previews her new show before the Edinburgh Festival at Oxford's fringe festival from June 23 to July 1. Juliette can be seen on July 1 at the Old Fire Station. See inside for more



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Sunday 28 May

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Saturday May 20th

BBC1



10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live (S)
11.30 Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites (S)(R) 12.00 Football Focus (S) 1.00 BBC News; Weather (S) 1.15 Bargain Hunt (S)(R) 2.15 Escape to the Country (S)(R) 3.15 FILM Wreck-It Ralph (2012) (PG) (S) 4.45 FILM Monsters University (2013) (U) (S) 6.20 BBC News (S) 6.30 BBC Regional News; Weather (S) 6.35 Pointless Celebrities (S)

DAYTIME

7

7.25 Doctor Who The Doctor intervenes when a deadly ancient tome is leaked onto the internet. (S)

8

8.15 Who Dares Wins Game show in which strangers pair up to win money. (S)

9

9.00 Casualty Hugo runs away when he finds out his father is planning to take him back. (S)
9.50 BBC News; Weather; (S) National Lottery Update (S)

10

10.10 Clique New series. Drama, starring Synnove Karlsen. (S)
10.55 Clique Holly's suspicion grows as Georgia is drawn into the heart of the clique. (S)

11

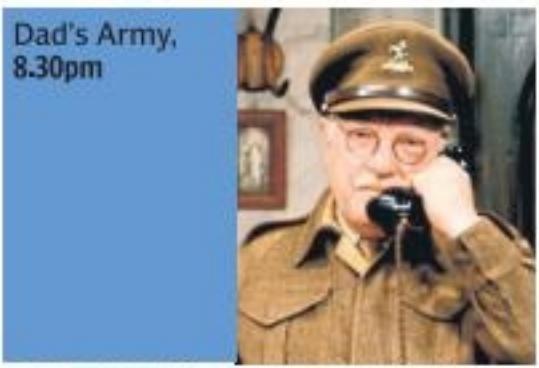
11.40 FILM Insomnia (2002) (15) Christopher Nolan's thriller, with Al Pacino and Robin Williams. (S)

AFTER

1.35 Weather for the Week Ahead (S)
1.40 BBC News (S)

12

BBC2



8.10 FILM Kismet (1955) (U) (S) 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer (S) (R) 11.00 Monty Hall's Great Hebridean Escape (S)(R) 12.00 Great British Menu (S)(R) 1.00 Hitchcock's Leading Actors: Talking Pictures (S) (R) 1.30 FILM North By Northwest (1959) (PG) (S) 3.45 Flog It! (S)(R) 4.10 Trust Me, I'm a Vet (S)(R) 5.10 Gardeners' World (S)(R) 6.10 Natural World (S)(R)

7.00 Mexico: Earth's Festival of Life Exploring the forests of the Yucatan Peninsula. (S)(R)

8.00 Yorkshire Wolds Way with Paul Rose Part two of two. Paul Rose explores the national trail (S)
8.30 Dad's Army Captain Mainwaring organises a dance. (S)(R)

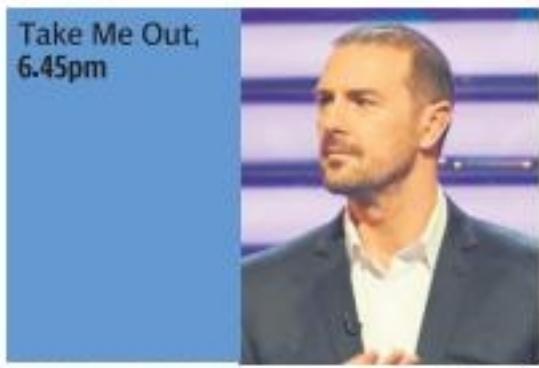
9.00 FILM Philomena (2013) (12) A disillusioned political journalist helps a woman find the child that was forcibly taken from her in the 1950s. Fact-based drama, with Judi Dench. (S)

10.35 QI XL With Sarah Millican, Tommy Tiernan and Josh Widdicombe. (S)

11.20 Versailles King Louis XIV's continued insomnia makes him increasingly volatile; (S)(R) Inside Versailles Kate. (S)(R)

12.20 FILM Cabaret (1972) (15) Oscar-winning musical, starring Liza Minnelli. (S) 2.20 This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV



6.00 CITV 8.25 ITV News (S) 8.30 Weekend (S) 9.25 The Home Game (S) (R) 10.20 Judge Rinder (S)(R) 11.15 Tipping Point (S)(R) 12.20 ITV News (S) 12.25 Bigheads (S)(R) 1.30 ITV Racing: Live from Newbury (S) 4.00 Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs (S)(R) 4.30 Catchphrase (S)(R) 5.15 Britain's Got More Talent (S) 6.15 ITV Regional News; Weather (S) 6.25 ITV News (S) 6.45 Take Me Out (S)

8.00 Britain's Got Talent The audition stage of the talent contest draws to a close. (S)

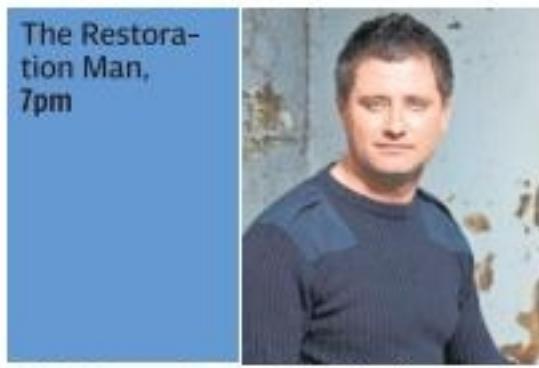
9.20 The Keith and Paddy Picture Show (S)
9.50 FILM Total Recall (1990) (15) Sci-fi thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Rachel Ticotin. (S)

10.50 ITV News; Weather (S)

11.05 FILM Total Recall (1990) (15) Concluded. (S)

12.20 Jackpot247 3.00 Who's Doing the Dishes? (S)(R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen

Channel 4



6.15 Motor Sport: Mini Challenge (S) 6.45 Mobil 1 The Grid (S) 7.10 Everybody Loves Raymond (S)(R) 8.30 Frasier (S)(R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory (S)(R) 11.25 The Simpsons (S)(R) 1.00 Come Dine with Me (S)(R) 3.35 A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun (S)(R) 4.35 Big House, Little House (S) 5.40 Location, Location, Location (S)(R) 6.35 Channel 4 News (S)

7.00 The Restoration Man George Clarke meets a man in Northumberland who plans to convert a Victorian railway station into a family home. (R)

8.00 Walks with My Dog Bill Bailey returns to his West Country roots for a walk on Exmoor. (S)

9.00 FILM The Heat (2013) (15) An ambitious FBI agent and an unconventional cop are forced to work together to bring a drug kingpin to justice. Action comedy, with Sandra Bullock. (S)

11.25 FILM Bullet to the Head (2012) (15) Action thriller, with Sylvester Stallone, Sung Kang and Christian Slater. (S)

1.05 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (S)(R) 1.50 Hollyoaks (S)(R) 3.55 Location, Location, Location (S)(R) 4.50 Shipping Wars UK (S)(R) 5.15 Fifteen to One (S)(R)

ADVERTORIAL

Simple steps homeowners can take now to protect their assets.

Head of April King Legal Paul King explains why some homeowners are doing **too little, too late** to protect their hard-earned assets.

Care Cost Fees

"A lot of people are still unaware that if they need care in later life, their assets will be means-tested by the Local Authority to help pay for these services."

"The Local Authority will look to use the assets of a person until they get down to a lower limit of £14,250, when the Local Authority will take over the fees."

"For instance, my own grandmother sadly passed away recently at the age of 92. My grandfather had died many years earlier and left everything to her."

"When she needed care in the last six years of her life, because my grandfather had left everything to her, the house and all the estate was counted in the Local Authority's means test."

"Our clients tell us, 'We've worked hard all our lives, why should the Local Authority get it all?'"

"Just as she died, she had gone down to that lower limit of £14,250 and that's all her children inherited."

"There are many myths about the steps people can take to protect their assets from being used like this."

"The main one is that a parent should simply sign their house over to the children now, so it won't be taken into consideration for means testing. That's just not true."

"Local Authorities will actually look to see if you've 'deliberately deprived' yourself of an asset by giving property away, going back over any period in time."

"Sometimes people think that if the gift is made seven years prior then the house is safe. This is not so as the seven-year rule only applies to Inheritance Tax and not Local Authority care."

"The solution is for couples to simply not leave everything to each other in the first place."

"What my grandfather could have done is leave his half of the house in trust to his children, stating that they couldn't have it while his wife, my grandmother, was still alive. We call these Property Trust Wills."

"If my grandfather had left his half of the house in trust to the children then when my grandmother subsequently received care in her later life she would only have been means tested on her own half of the house, but my grandfather's half would have been safe."

"Why should he have to contribute his half when he didn't receive any care?"

"The important factor is that couples need to act in advance. Once one party dies or loses mental capacity, through a stroke for example, then they are no longer in a position to do this legitimate and straightforward type of planning."

"It is therefore important for couples to act now even if they may not foresee care fees being an issue."

Paul goes on to explain that most clients he sees are surprised to learn remarriage usually cancels a Will and makes the spouse next in line to inherit, ahead of their own children! Protecting your half of the house in this way, he suggests, ensures that your children ultimately inherit when the survivor dies.

"Had my grandmother remarried after the death of my grandfather the whole estate could have passed sideways out of the family," says Paul.

Lasting Power of Attorney

Paul explains how people often get confused thinking that, because they have made a Will, their executors can also deal with assets if there is illness, stroke or some other form of incapacity while they are still alive.

"Everyone should actually have two documents – a Will that deals with their estate on death, and a Lasting Power of Attorney that deals with their estate during their lifetime," he says.

"There are two types of Lasting Power of Attorney – one deals with finance, the other deals with health and welfare."

"In many ways it's similar to a passport; a document that's registered now and one which can be physically handed to the attorneys should the need arise."

"It allows the attorneys, perhaps the children, to deal with the banks and pension companies etc should their parent become incapacitated, but also to deal with matters such as where the parent should be living and how they should receive care."

"Your attorneys, again perhaps your children, must legally act in your best interests at all times."

"You can choose a number of attorneys to act, either jointly or independently, and April King advises on the various options available."

"Couples are often surprised to discover that even joint bank accounts can be frozen until the bank sees sight of a Lasting Power of Attorney document."

"Having a Lasting Power of Attorney removes the burden on children should ill health happen further down the line."

"It helps a family deal with bank accounts and so on during a parent's lifetime and ceases on death."

"Crucially, you have to complete a Lasting Power of Attorney while you are still in good mental health."

"If someone becomes ill through say, a stroke or dementia, this option is lost and the family would have to apply for a Deputyship Order from the Court of Protection – a drawn out and expensive process."

"It is therefore a good idea for clients to plan ahead and remove any future burden from the family."

"Once again, all adults should be thinking of this, particularly when there are children or a business involved."

"It's not just something to think about when you get older, that's the challenge for us."

"People think, 'I'm not ill, why do I need to make a Power of Attorney?' But they're missing the point. This is a document that has to be done in advance."



Paul King, Head of April King Legal

"The Lasting Power of Attorney remains in place until you die unless you want to cancel it."

"Once it's registered, you don't have to worry if you then develop some debilitating illness. A burden has been removed from the family at an already difficult time."

Bloodline Trust Wills

The majority of April King's clients have already made standard 'Mirror Wills' with other firms before approaching the Firm. A Mirror Will is when a couple leave everything to each other on the first death, then to the children when the second partner dies. But modern family life means these type of Wills leave a lot to chance.

Explains Paul: "If I have a Mirror Will leaving everything to my wife and she remarries or goes into care after my death then either the new husband or the Local Authority are likely to inherit most, if not all, of my estate ahead of my children."

"Even if my children are named in my Mirror Will, it is by no means certain that they will inherit anything."

"Once again, this is because a remarriage would cancel the Will my wife had previously made with me and make the new husband next-of-kin."

"This often comes as a big shock to my clients who had perhaps thought that all was in order and that the family bloodline would one day inherit."

"The same is true for thinking that their children and/or grandchildren will one day benefit under a Mirror Will."

"If any of your children should die leaving everything to their husband or wife and that son-in-law or daughter-in-law should then remarry, then your grandchildren would be the ones to lose out under the line of inheritance."

"Worse still, someone else's grandchildren would be in line to receive the benefit of all your years of hard work."

"I've experienced this in my own family and I'm sure most people have had similar experiences or heard of someone who has."

"Bloodline Trust Wills give greater protection to your children."

"These type of Wills not only give your children complete control and access to the inheritance they receive from you, they also grant added protection from the twists and turns of modern family life."

"The wording in these Wills states that any money left over on their demise must pass to any children born of them – your grandchildren."

© April King 2017

April King has prepared a free information pack for readers of the Oxfordshire Guardian which is available by calling

01865 593081

Lines open Mon-Fri 8am-7pm,
Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 10am-2pm

You can also email info@aprileking.co.uk or visit www.aprileking.co.uk/infopack



April King has 20 offices across the Midlands.
Your local office is: Prama House, 267 Banbury Road,
Summertown, Oxford, OX2 7HT

OPEN DAY and meet the hearing experts

Thursday 18th May in **WITNEY HEARING CENTRE**
9.30am to 5pm

Friday 19th May in **WHITE LION WALK BANBURY**
9.30am to 5pm

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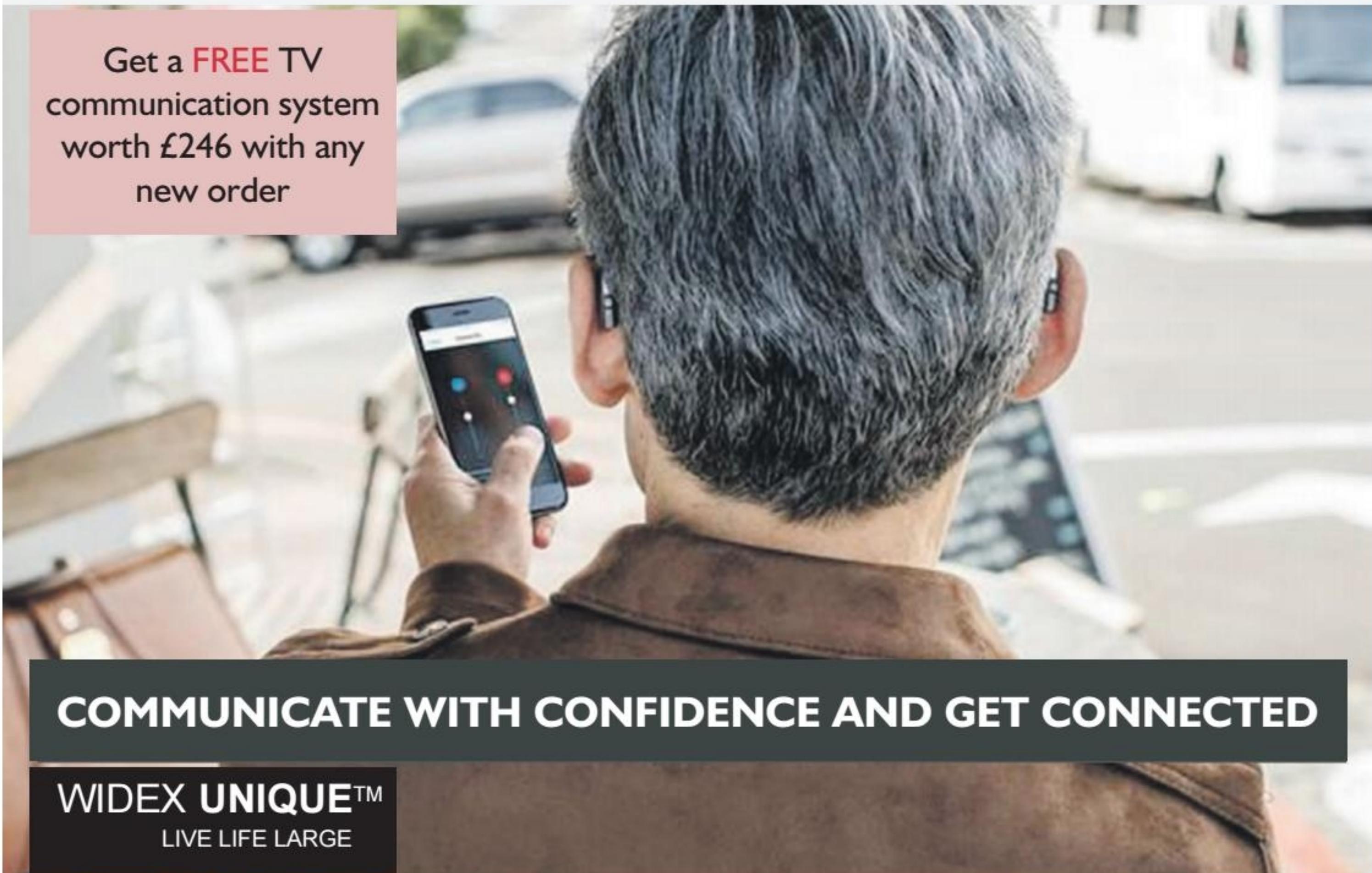
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There is no obligation to buy anything ever. We would just love to see you and answer any questions that you may have.

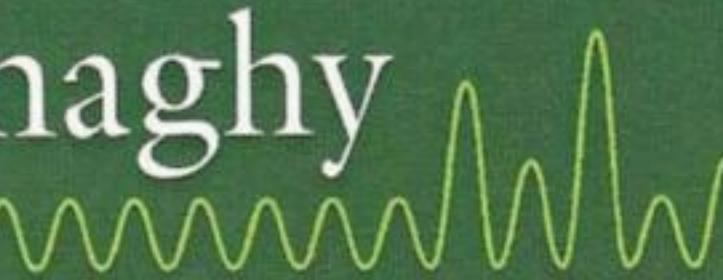
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Sunday May 21st

BBC1



Antiques Roadshow, 7.30pm

DAYTIME

7

8

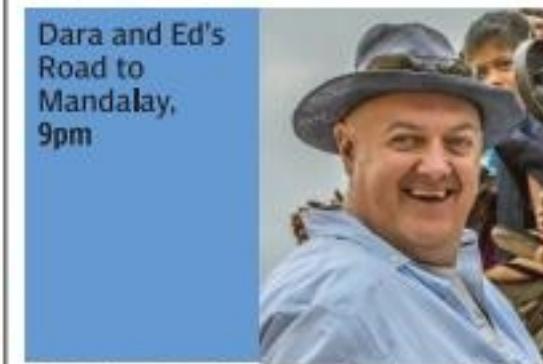
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10

11

AFTER 12

BBC2



Dara and Ed's Road to Mandalay, 9pm

9.00 The Andrew Marr Show (S)
10.00 The Big Questions (S) 11.00 Sunday Politics (S) 12.15 Bargain Hunt (S)(R) 1.00 BBC News (S) 1.15 Money for Nothing (S)(R) 2.00 Escape to the Country (S)(R) 3.00 Shop Well for Less? (S)(R) 4.00 Lifeline (S) 4.10 Points of View (S) 4.25 Songs of Praise (S) 5.00 RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2017 (S) 6.00 BBC News (S) 6.20 News (S) 6.30 Countryfile (S)

7.30 Antiques Roadshow Fiona Bruce presents a second show from Ightham Mote near Sevenoaks. (S)

8.30

Inspector George Gently

The detective puts his career on the line when he reopens the case of a woman convicted of killing her husband. (S)

9.00

BBC News (S)

10.20 BBC Regional News; Weather

10.30 Match of the Day

Gary Lineker presents highlights of the final day of the Premier League season. (S)

11.00

BBC News (S)

12.45

The Women's Football Show (S)

1.20

Weather for the Week Ahead (S)

1.25

BBC News (S)

1.45

Sign Zone: Question Time (S)(R)

2.45

Holby City (S)(R)

3.45

This Is BBC Two (S)

4.00

BBC News (S)

4.40

Murder in Successville (S)

4.45

The Women's Football Show (S)

4.50

Weather for the Week Ahead (S)

4.55

BBC News (S)

5.00

BBC News (S)

5.15

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00

Fleur East: The Hot Desk

6.10

You've Been

Framed!

Gold

6.35

Emmerdale

9.10

Coronation Street

11.45

Take Me Out

1.00

FILM: A Cinderella Story

(2004)

(PG)

Romantic

comedy

starring

Hilary Duff

and

Chad

Michael

Murray

2.00

FYI Daily

2.05

FILM: A

Cinderella

Story

(2004)

(PG)

Concluded

3.05

FILM: Space Chimps

(2008)

(U)

Animated

sci-fi

comedy

with

the

voice

of

Andy

Samberg

4.05

FYI Daily

4.10

FILM: Space Chimps

(2008)

(U)

Concluded

4.40

Britain's Got

Talent

5.55

Britain's Got More Talent

6.55

FILM: Red

Riding

Hood

(2011)

(12)

Concluded

6.55

FILM: Red Riding Hood

(2011)

(12)

Concluded

9.00

Take Me Out - The Gossip

10.00

Family Guy

11.30

American Dad!

12.25

The Cleveland Show

1.25

Through the Keyhole

2.15

Alesha

Dixon: The Hot Desk

2.25

Teleshopping

5.55

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

5.55

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00

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2.25

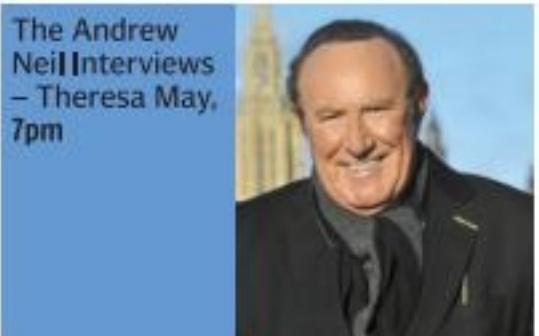
Teleshopping

5.55

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

Monday May 22nd

BBC1



The Andrew Neil Interviews – Theresa May, 7pm

DAYTIME

7

11.00 A1: Britain's Longest Road (S)
11.45 Close Calls: On Camera (S)
12.15 Bargain Hunt (S) 1.00 BBC News (S) 1.30 News (S) 1.45 Doctors (S) 2.15 Impossible (S) 3.00 Escape to the Country (S)(R) 3.45 RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2017 (S) 4.30 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is (S)(R) 5.15 Pointless (S) 6.00 BBC News (S) 6.30 BBC Regional News (S) 6.55 Party Election Broadcast (S)

8

7.00 The Andrew Neil Interviews – Theresa May (S)
7.30 RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2017; (S) BBC News; Regional News (S)

9

8.00 EastEnders Shirley opens up to Whitney about forging Mick's signature. (S)
8.30 Would I Lie to You? With Richard Hammond. (S)(R)

10

9.00 Doctor in the House Dr Rangan Chatterjee helps a woman with severe anxiety who relies on antidepressants and alcohol, and also spends time with a man battling debilitating exhaustion.

11

10.00 BBC News at Ten (S)
10.30 BBC Regional News and Weather (S)
10.45 Have I Got a Bit More News for You Frankie Boyle hosts. (S)

12

11.25 The Graham Norton Show With Nicole Kidman, Keith Urban, Alan Cumming and Sheryl Crow. (S)(R)

AFTER 12.15 Weather for the Week Ahead (S) 12.20 BBC News (S)

BBC2



Detectorists, 10pm

8.00 Sign Zone: Antiques Roadshow (S)(R) 9.00 Victoria Derbyshire 11.00 BBC Newsroom Live (S) 12.00 Daily Politics (S) 1.00 Two Tribes (S)(R) 1.30 Channel Patrol (S)(R) 2.15 Red Rock (S)(R) 3.00 Hairy Bikers' Best of British (S)(R) 3.45 Coming Home: Alex Jones (S) 4.15 Greece with Simon Reeve (S)(R) 5.15 Antiques Road Trip (S)(R) 6.00 Debatable (S) 6.45 Celebrity Eggheads (S)

7.30 Great British Menu The North East chefs prepare their starters. (S)

8.00 RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2017 Monty Don and Joe Swift share their first thoughts on the show gardens at the annual horticultural event. (S)

9.00 The Fifteen Billion Pound Railway: The Final Countdown Part one of two. Return of the documentary about the construction of the Crossrail train line. (S)

10.00 Detectorists A mole leaks information to a rival metal-detecting club. (S)

10.30 Newsnight (S)

11.10 Weather (S)
11.15 Morocco to Timbuktu: An Arabian Adventure (S)(R)

12.15 Sign Zone: MasterChef: The Finals (S)(R) 1.15 Countryfile (S)(R) 2.10 Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby (S)(R) 3.10 This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV



Babushka, 5pm

6.00 Good Morning Britain (S) 8.30 Lorraine (S) 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show (S) 10.30 This Morning (S) 12.30 Loose Women (S) 1.30 ITV Lunchtime News (S) 1.55 ITV Regional News (S) 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal (S) 3.00 Masterpiece with Alan Titchmarsh (S) 3.59 ITV Regional Weather (S) 4.00 Tipping Point (S) 5.00 Babushka (S) 6.00 ITV Regional News (S) 6.30 ITV News (S)

7.00 Emmerdale Tracy decides to accept the consequences of her actions. (S)

7.30 Coronation Street Adam kidnaps Daniel. (S)

8.00 Britain As Seen on ITV Clips celebrating things that the nation is famous for around the world. (S)(R)

8.30 Coronation Street (S)

9.00 Prince Philip: 70 Years of Service Alan Titchmarsh looks back on the life of the longest-serving consort in British history. (S)

10.00 ITV News: Weather (S)
10.40 ITV Regional News: Weather (S)

10.50 Don't Ask Me Ask Britain

Interactive comedy game show hosted by Alexander Armstrong. (S)(R)

11.55 The Chase Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (S)(R)

12.45 Jackpot247 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R) 3.55 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R)

12.50 Never Seen a Doctor (S)(R)

1.45 The Wild Weekenders (S)(R) 2.40 Location, Location, Location (S)(R)

3.35 Building the Dream (S) 4.30

Shipping Wars UK (S)(R) 4.55 Jamie's

Comfort Food (S)(R) 5.05 World's Most

Expensive Cars (S)(R)

Channel 4



The Fake News Show, 8.30pm

9.05 Frasier (S)(R) 10.05 Ramsay's Hotel Hell (S)(R) 11.00 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun (S)(R) 12.00 Channel 4 News (S) 12.05 Couples Come Dine with Me (S)(R) 1.05 Posh Pawnbrokers (S)(R) 2.10 Countdown (S) 3.00 Fifteen to One (S) 4.00 Coast vs Country (S) 5.00 Four in a Bed (S) 5.30 Come Dine with Me (S)(R) 6.00 The Simpsons (S)(R) 6.30 Hollyoaks (S)

7.00 Channel 4 News (S)
7.55 Party Election Broadcast

Political broadcast. (S)

8.00 Food Unwrapped Matt Tebbutt learns about a hi-tech method of extending the shelf-life of herbs. (S)

8.30 The Fake News Show (S)

9.00 The Trial: A Murder in the Family The trial continues with key evidence from Carla and Simon's friends. Continues tomorrow. (S)

10.00 Loaded Josh sets out to save his parents' marriage. (S)

10.50 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown Jimmy Carr hosts. (S)(R)

11.55 Shut-Ins: Britain's Fattest Woman A morbidly obese woman who underwent surgery to lose weight. (S)(R)

12.50 Never Seen a Doctor (S)(R)

1.45 The Wild Weekenders (S)(R) 2.40 Location, Location, Location (S)(R)

3.35 Building the Dream (S) 4.30

Shipping Wars UK (S)(R) 4.55 Jamie's

Comfort Food (S)(R) 5.05 World's Most

Expensive Cars (S)(R)

Channel 5



MotoGP Highlights, 7pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff 11.15 The Hotel Inspector (S)(R) 12.10 5 News Lunchtime (S) 12.15 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away (S)(R) 1.10 Access (S) 1.15 Home and Away (S) 1.45 Neighbours (S) 2.15 NCIS (S) 3.10 FILM Missing Daughter (2017) (PG) (S) 5.00 5 News at 5 (S) 5.30 Neighbours (S)(R) 6.00 Home and Away (S)(R) 6.30 5 News Tonight (S) 6.55 Party Election Broadcast (S)

7.00 MotoGP Highlights The Grand Prix of France. Action from the Bugatti Circuit at the Circuit de la Sarthe; (S) 5 News Update (S)

8.00 Police Interceptors Jim and the team take to the road to spring a trap on suspected drug dealers; (S) 5 News Update (S)

9.00 Inside the Gang: Girl Gangsters Female gang members speak about their experiences. Last in the series. (S)

10.00 FILM Django Unchained (2012) (18) Quentin Tarantino's Western, starring Jamie Foxx and Christoph Waltz. Including 5 News Update at 11pm. (S)

1.15 SuperCasino 3.10 Top 20 Funniest (S) 4.00 Britain's Greatest Bridges (S)(R) 4.45 House Doctor (S)(R) 5.10 HouseBusters (S)(R) 5.35 Wildlife SOS (S)(R)



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DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Vicky Pattison: The Hot Desk 6.10 You've Been Framed! Gold 6.35 Below Deck 7.20 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 8.00 Emmerdale 8.30 Coronation Street 9.35 Scorpion 10.25 Below Deck 11.20 Who's Doing the Dishes? 12.25 Emmerdale 12.55 Coronation Street 2.00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show 2.50 The Jeremy Kyle Show 5.00 Judge Rinder 6.00 You've Been Framed! Gold 8.00 Two and a Half Men 9.00 Family Guy 9.30 The Great Indoors 10.30 American Dad! 11.30 Family Guy 12.30 American Dad! 12.55 The Cleveland Show 1.55 The Great Indoors 2.20 Teleshopping 5.50 ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 In Loving Memory 6.25 Heartbeat 7.25 Where the Heart Is 8.25 Wild at Heart 9.25 Judge Judy 10.50 Road to Avonlea 11.50 The Return of Sherlock Holmes 1.00 Heartbeat 2.00 The Royal 3.05 Wild at Heart 4.10 On the Buses 5.20 In Loving Memory 5.55 Heartbeat 7.00 Murder, She Wrote 8.00 Doc Martin 9.00 Rosemary & Thyme 10.00 Law & Order: UK 11.00 The Street 12.20 The Return of Sherlock Holmes 1.25 The Knock 2.20 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 100 Days+; Weather 7.30 Great British Railway Journeys 8.00 Mud, Sweat and Tractors: The Story of Agriculture 9.00 The Riviera: A History in Pictures 10.00 Francesco's Italy Top to Toe 11.00 Mothers, Murderers and Mistresses: Empresses of Ancient Rome 12.00 Greek Myths: Tales of Travelling Heroes 1.30 Timeshift: The Last Days of Steam 2.30 The Code of Life: Great Scientists in Their Own Words 3.30 Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

8.00 Rules of Engagement 9.00 Melissa & Joey 10.00 Baby Daddy 11.00 How I Met Your Mother 12.00 New Girl 1.00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 2.00 The Big Bang Theory 3.00 How I Met Your Mother 4.00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 5.00 New Girl 6.00 The Big Bang Theory 7.00 Hollyoaks 7.30 Baby Daddy 8.00 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Made in Chelsea 10.00 Empire 11.00 The Big Bang Theory 12.00 Tattoo Fixers on Holiday 1.05 Gogglebox 2.10 Made in Chelsea 3.00 Empire 3.50 New Girl 4.10 Rules of Engagement 4.55 Melissa & Joey

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun 9.55 Grand

Designs 10.55 Four in a Bed 1.40 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun 3.45 Time Team 5.50 Vet on the Hill 6.55 The Secret Life of 4 Year Olds 7.55 Grand Designs 9.00 The Great Wall of China: The Hidden Story - Secret History 10.00 24 Hours in A&E 11.05 999: What's Your Emergency? 12.05 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA 1.05 24 Hours in A&E 2.10 999: What's Your Emergency? 3.10 8 Out of 10 Cats 3.55 Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Face of a Fugitive (1959) (U) 12.40 Salome (1953) (PG) 2.45 Destry Rides Again (1939) (U) 4.35 The Riddle of the Sands (1978) (PG) 6.40 The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (2013) (PG) 9.00 Brassed Off (1996) (15) 11.10 The Sitter (2011) (15) 12.45 The Treatment (2014) (18) 3.25 Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

6.00 Home Shopping 7.00 Scrapheap Challenge 8.00 American Pickers 9.00 Storage Hunters UK 10.00 American Pickers 12.00 Lizard Lick Towing 1.00 Top Gear 3.00 Sin City Motors 4.00 Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge 5.00 Top Gear 8.00 Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish 9.00 Live at the Apollo 10.00 Dara O Briain's Go 8 Bit 11.00 Go 8 Bit: DLC 11.30 Mock the Week 12.10 Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge 1.00 Dara O Briain's Go 8 Bit 2.10 Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish 3.00 Go 8 Bit: DLC 3.25 Lizard Lick Towing 4.00 Home Shopping

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 The Agatha Christie Hour 8.00 Pie in the Sky 9.00 Monarch of the Glen 10.00 All Creatures Great and Small 11.00 The Bill 1.00 Last of the Summer Wine 2.20 Birds of a Feather 3.00 Boon 4.00 Monarch of the Glen 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small 6.00 Waiting for God 6.40 Last of the Summer Wine 7.20 Keeping Up Appearances 8.00 New Tricks 9.00 Death in Paradise 10.00 Silent Witness 12.20 The Bill 1.20 Birds of a Feather 2.00 Pie in the Sky 4.00 Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hawaii Five-0 8.00 Monkey Life 9.00 Micro Monsters with David Attenborough 10.00 Nothing to Declare 11.00 Forever 12.00 NCIS: Los Angeles 1.00 Hawaii Five-0 3.00 NCIS: Los Angeles 4.00 Haven 5.00 Modern Family 6.00 Futurama 6.30 The Simpsons 9.00 Football's Funniest Moments 10.00 A League of Their Own

Own US Road Trip 11.00 Ross Kemp: Extreme World 1.00 Brit Cops: War on Crime

PROPERTYWEEKLY

Thursday, May 18 - Wednesday, May 24, 2017

www.oxfordpropertyweekly.co.uk



This property showcased courtesy of Andrews of Abingdon

Family home in Sutton Courtenay

Located 3.5 miles south of Abingdon is the parish village of Sutton Courtenay. The historic village dates back to Anglo-Saxon times and has been featured in Channel 4's 'Time Team'.

The author George Orwell is buried in the grounds of the parish church, arranged by his friends after his death in London, in accordance with his wish.

Sutton Courtenay is also home to a primary school, a shop, post office and village veterinary practice.

Nestled in the grounds of an impressive 156ft garden with mature shrubs and trees sits, this light, bright and well-appointed family home.

The property has been designed with family in mind, making the best possible use of each of the rooms with the fifth bedroom currently used as the family office.

To the ground floor, the welcoming entrance hall provides convenient access to three bedrooms and the

• *Continues on page 36*

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Impressive family home in village

From front page

impressively-sized family bathroom, whilst naturally drawing you into the heart of the property, where a clear definition between living and sleeping space is set out.

Double French doors open into the dining area, which provides the perfect spot for family meals, whilst benefitting from open plan access to the living room.

Measuring 23ft in length, the living room offers ample room for social and family gatherings whilst creating a sense of warmth thanks to the cosy fireplace. Double French doors lead out onto the paved patio area.

Offers in excess of £610,000 are invited. To arrange a viewing contact selling agent Andrews of Abingdon on 01235 555553, or email abingdon@andrewsonline.co.uk.

Why landlords need to be savvy of new energy laws

If you're a landlord, or even if you're a home owner who has bought or sold in the last 10 years, then it's likely you'll be aware of Energy Performance Certificates - EPCs.

Much like the stickers you'll find on a fridge-freezer, an EPC provides an indication of the current and potential energy efficiency of a property. But did you know that within the next year, new energy efficiency legislation will come into force that, if you're a landlord, you'll need to not only be aware of, but also compliant of?

Simply, in April 2018 new Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES)

come into force which will mean that a rental property must achieve a minimum "E" rating for all new leases and renewals.

It will be illegal to rent a property that does not meet this minimum requirement due to what will be deemed its 'substandard' conditions.

It may be easy to think that no-one really takes any notice of EPC ratings, and therefore you needn't worry yourself too much with this new legislation. However, with Trading Standards able to impose fines of up to £4,000, now is the time to do your homework and ensure the properties within your port-

folio make the grade.

The first step to take, of course, is to ensure that your properties have valid and up to date EPCs in place. Going through the necessary expert assessment will allow a new EPC to reflect any recent improvements which you've made, as well as highlight any improvements that can be made.

It's worth remembering too that these improvements don't need to be terribly onerous or difficult to carry out. One of the major causes of heat loss in a residential building is through doors and windows with insufficient seals so replacing these can help to eliminate

any drafts, whilst adding additional insulation to loft areas can help reduce heat loss through roofs. Don't forget that low energy LED bulbs can often be installed into existing sockets!

Cavity wall insulation and replacement windows are other options, although both are arguably more disruptive unless you plan on carrying out a wider scheme of improvements. If this is the case, then you may also consider an upgrade to a more energy efficient boiler or the installation of a smart meter.

Something to remember, however, is that even if you're not a landlord but

are planning to sell your property to an investor who will rent it out, then the EPC rating will still need to make the minimum "E" grade.

Where the responsibility in this situation lies is naturally a grey area, but ensuring a property is as energy efficient as it possibly can be is no bad thing and will help to improve its saleability.

If you have queries relating to how you can make your property as energy efficient as possible, then the team at your local Andrews branch – there are five across Oxfordshire – will be happy to help and advise you. Go to andrewsonline.co.uk.



Landlords - be alert to changing market conditions

Bill Cooper, co-author of The Oxford Property Blog and managing director of Martin and Co, Oxford

Over recent weeks I have detected some changes in the Oxford rental market. It is important that landlords and owners of buy-to-let properties recognise the changes and protect their position.

During April and early May there was a large availability of rental properties across the Oxford market. I believe that this is due to two key factors: properties bought in March 2016 to beat the new stamp duty surcharge have come onto the market for re-let, many for the first time since they were bought; and, there is a general level of uncertainty resulting from the general election being called at a time when Brexit was already creating uncertainty, particularly for foreign nationals coming to Oxford to live,

study or work.

The quantity of enquiries from prospective tenants has remained reasonably buoyant, and although the volume of demand is subdued, it is certainly comparable to the same period 12 months earlier. However, the increased supply is resulting in greater choice for prospective tenants, which in turn is delaying their offer decisions, and creating price sensitivity.

What does this mean for landlords? Firstly, buy-to-let owners need to be open to offers from tenants, even where those offers may be below the advertised rent. Prospective tenants are savvy, and they are actively comparing rental values and the value for money between different available properties.

Secondly, landlords should be open to feedback from tenants and from their letting agent on the condition of your property. Properties that are presented at a high level of condition continue to attract more offers relative to comparable properties presented in a poorer condition.

Thirdly, landlords should encourage and even incentivise existing tenants to renew their tenancy by offering an attractive renewal rent. The biggest cost for a landlord is a void period, extending current tenants mitigates the risk of a void ensuring that the property is continuously occupied.

I don't believe that the fundamentals of demand for Oxford are dramatically changing, but Oxford

like Cambridge, has an increasing tendency to track the London market albeit with a delay of six to nine months. London had two poor quarters – Q4 2016 and Q1 2017 – and we may see a similar picture emerge in Oxford during Q2 and Q3 2017. I expect house prices to continue rising but at a subdued rate of growth of around 5% per annum (in prime central London they fell back) and across the market I expect rents to rise at a noticeably lower rate of growth of between 2% to 4% during 2017.

■ For more insights into the Oxford property market follow [www.OxfordPropertyBlog.co.uk](http://OxfordPropertyBlog.co.uk).

Bill Cooper is author of The Oxford Property Blog, and Managing Director of Martin & Co, Oxford.



King's Court, Carterton
Homes from £185,000

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Artist's impression

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Abingdon £275,000

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Sutton Courtenay £404,000
Two bedroom detached bungalow on a no-through road in Sutton Courtenay. Awaiting EPC Rating.



Abingdon £195,000
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Abingdon £269,950
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Abingdon £250,000
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Staff



26
Years



13
Offices



1
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THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE TIMES



COMPTON BEAUCHAMP A delightful residence nestled in the picturesque Oxfordshire hamlet of Compton Beauchamp. 'Evie Willow' kitchen, three reception rooms, four double bedrooms, three bathrooms. EPC Rating E

£850,000 Wantage office 01235 772670



CHILDREY A beautifully restored detached 500 yr old Grade II Listed cottage, formerly the village Smithy, full of character and period details. Attached unconverted barn, EPC Rating Exempt

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WANTAGE An extremely well presented substantial town house, over looking a green, within walking distance to the Market Place. Garden, garage and parking. EPC Rating C

£365,000 Wantage office 01235 772670



WANTAGE A substantial town house offering spacious and versatile accommodation arranged over three floors. With a garage, parking and landscaped rear garden. A super family home with a short walk of the historic Market Place. EPC Rating B

£340,000 Wantage office 01235 772670



GROVE A four bedroom detached home in a popular cul-de-sac location. Ground floor cloakroom, master bedroom with en-suite shower room, family bathroom, garage & driveway parking. EPC Rating C

£315,000 Wantage office 01235 772670



ABINGDON A two bedrooomed maisonette, situated two miles form Abingdon and Didcot parkway main line station with Milton park a mile away. Ideal investment purchase or for first time buyers. EPC Rating C

£185,000 Abingdon office 01235 526907

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WANTAGE A superbly refurbished two bedroom character house, with private rear garden, ground floor cloakroom, new kitchen, bathroom, windows and doors, excellent first time or investment purchase. Awaiting EPC Rating.

£275,000 Wantage office 01235 772670



WANTAGE An immaculately presented two double bedroom mid-terrace home situated in a popular residential area with good access to local amenities. Downstairs W/C, Two allocated parking spaces. EPC Rating B.

£270,000 Wantage office 01235 772670



ABINGDON-ON-THAMES A modern apartment with a 55% shared ownership. EPC Rating B

£107,250 Abingdon office 01235 526907



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APPLETON A brand new built detached house finished to the highest of standards with works completed in May 2017, set in a village location offering spacious accommodation throughout. EPC Rating C.

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LONGWORTH A unique detached property recently converted from a chapel dating back to 1861 retaining many of its original features, situated in the sought after village of Longworth with great access to the A420 & Oxford. EPC Rating C.

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Agent rewarded for having the golden touch with customers

A leading Oxfordshire estate agent has scooped gold in industry awards based on customer feedback.

Breckon & Breckon, who have offices throughout Oxfordshire, received the award in the southern region at the ESTAS 2017.

The awards, now in their 14th year, determine the best estate and letting agents in the UK based purely on feedback from customers who are asked a series of questions about the service they have received from their agent. More than 34,000 surveys were completed by customers during the competition.

Phil Spencer, who has hosted the ESTAS every year since their inception, said: “This industry doesn’t get enough credit for the work it does in helping millions of customers around the UK and making their dreams come true and at the ESTAS we want to highlight that fact.”

Addressing the audience at Grosvenor House in Park Lane, he added: “If you make it up on stage today you can leave in the knowledge that you’ve achieved the highest accolade our industry can offer.”



Jane Gardner, Kate Donoghue, Phil Spencer, Summer Swailes, Greg Barnes, Jessica Wulff and Amy Powell from Breckon & Breckon

Simon Brown, founder of the ESTAS, said: “Like it or not we live in a world where the consumer decision making process is influenced more and more by customer reviews so the ESTAS provides a kite mark of excellent service for any property professional involved in the home moving process.”

Greg Barnes, managing director of Breckon & Breckon’s letting business, said: “These awards are based solely on customer feedback so we were absolutely thrilled to be shortlisted, let alone win gold for the southern region. We work incredibly hard to maintain our service levels so it’s great for it to be publicly recognised and proves we are delivering what we promise.”





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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS



On the fringe of variety

By Samantha McGregor

TICKETS have gone on sale for the second annual Offbeat, Oxford's fringe festival of performing arts.

Taking place at Oxford Playhouse and Old Fire Station from June 23 to July 2, Offbeat will stage 71 events over the 10 days spanning theatre, comedy, spoken word, music and dance offering something for everyone.

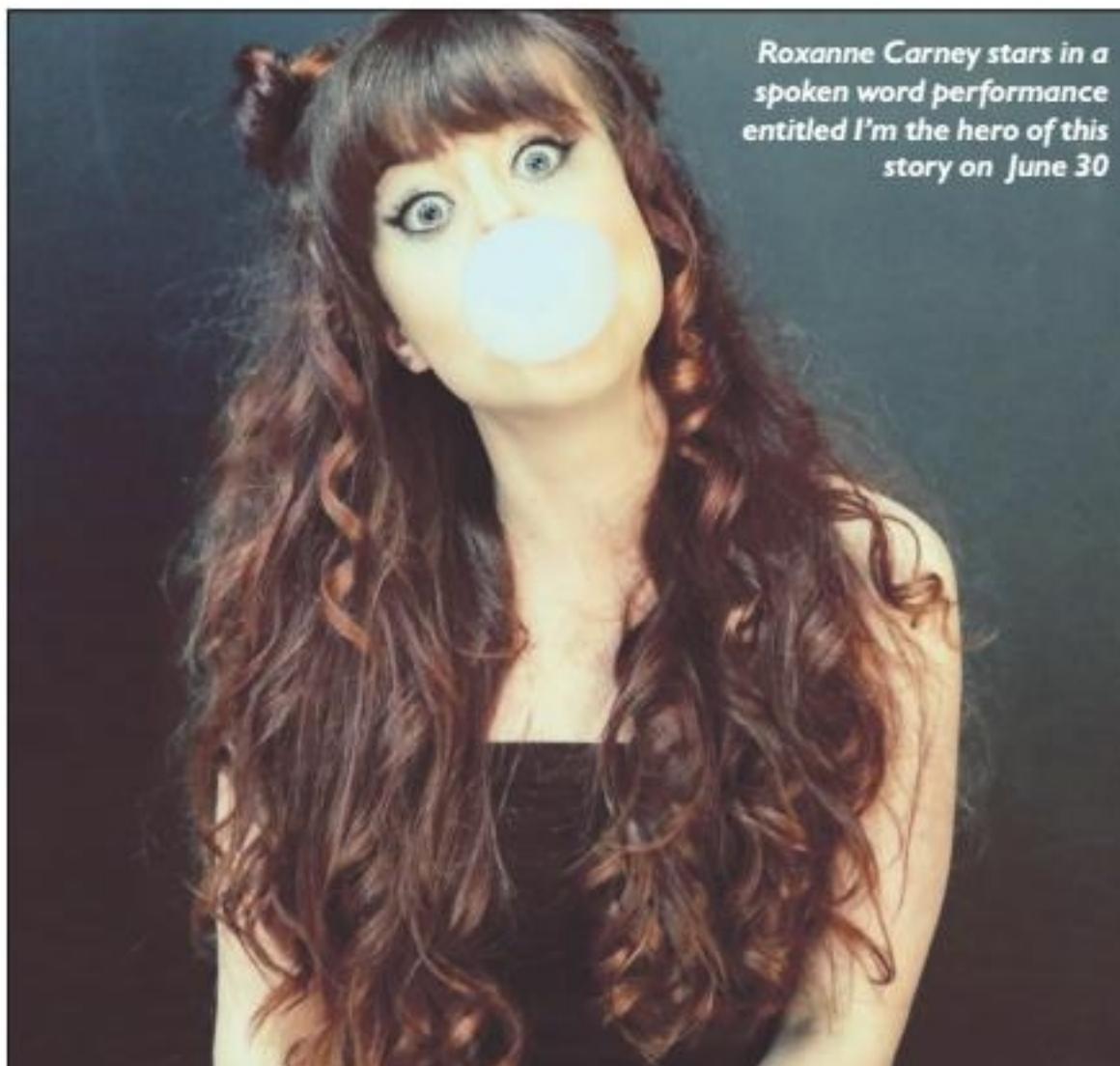
Room is a one-on-one experience for a blindfolded audience member, while Wrecked takes place inside a crashed car.

Offbeat will also include a preview of performance poet and playwright Richard Marsh's new show Todd & God, and James Rowland's A Hundred Different Words for Love.

Weekends offer shows for families, including two for under-threes and a dance programme.

A year on from the European referendum, there is fierce political theatre from #TORYCORE, a satirical Brexit tale in Blowfish Theatre's Boris - The Musical!, or catch comedian Mark Thomas's new show A Show That Gambles on the Future.

Returning for the second year running is Radio 4 presenter Viv Groskop, and the multi-award winning



Sajeela Kershi and Sameena Zehra.

The festival also celebrates a host of local artists.

Luke Rollason, a 2015 University

of Oxford graduate, presents Planet Earth III a low budget one-man documentary set in the future, and fellow Oxford graduate Matthew Floyd Jones,

the keyboard playing half of Frisky & Mannish, perform new dark comedy Richard Carpenter's Close To You.

The festival gives six Oxfordshire women, aged 20 to 80, a voice to celebrate the courage and bravery of ordinary women.

While Standby Theatre's The Room of Lost Things, is inspired by secrets collected from the people of Oxford.

Festival Producer Vicky Graham said: "I am so excited that the shared vision of an entrepreneurial arts centre and an established regional theatre has created this opportunity for the performing artists of the future to meet adventurous local and national audiences.

"I cannot wait to see Oxford - a city steeped with heritage and culture - humming with a rich, complex and entertaining contemporary programme, and look forward to putting Offbeat firmly on the festival map."

Offbeat is a partnership between Oxford Playhouse and Arts at the Old Fire Station, and supported by Arts Council England.

Ticket prices for all performances will be £10 or less.

For more information go to offbeatoxford.co.uk

Rocking the Cellar

MUSIC: Garage-rockers Otherkin are back in Oxford on Thursday, May 25, to headline The Cellar, in Frewin Court, Oxford.

Having just returned from an extensive tour of the UK in which Otherkin supported The Amazons at The Bullingdon in March, they are back for a headline slot in Oxford.

Nothing tame here!

MUSIC: Tickets have gone on sale for Thame Town Music Festival, which takes place on July 8.

A total of 50 acts will appear across nine venues including Glen Matlock and Friends, Slim Jim Phantom from The Stay Cats, The 27, Nikki Loy and Hiway 51. thametownmusicfestival.org

Press-ing fixture

MUSIC: Called English folk music's hidden talent, Three Pressed Men make a return to Wallingford on Saturday.

The band will use their voices, hammer dulcimer, guitars, accordions, harmonica and lots of concertinas in their performance at Wallingford Methodist Church.

Tickets cost £10 from Wallingford town information office on 01491 836649, or artatwmc@gmail.com.

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- + The Skeletal Family
- + Pauline Murray

Fri 19th May • £8 adv

Uprising - BBC Introducing

- + Little Brother Eli
- + Lucy Leave
- + Harry Pane
- + Ghosts In The Photographs
- + Sleepers Dome

Sat 20th May • £10 adv • 6.30pm

The Verve Experience:

- + Juniper Nights
- + Dave Hunt

Wed 24th May • £25 adv

Adam Buxton's BUG: David Bowie Special

Fri 26th May • £8 adv • 6pm

Church Of The Heavy

- + Twisted Statre
- + K-Lacura

Fri 26th May • £10 adv • 11pm

Official Oxford Outlook Festival Launch Party

Sat 27th May • £11 adv • 6.30pm

Novana - A Tribute to Nirvana

Tue 30th May • £25 adv • 7.30pm

Bars and Melody / Johnny Orlando Co-headline Tour

- + Mackenzie Ziegler

Fri 2nd June • £20 adv

Slowdive

- + Ulrika Spacek

Wed 7th June • £19.50 adv

Starsailor

- + Bang Bang Romeo

Fri 9th Jun • £25 adv

The Skids - 40th Anniversary Show

Fri 9th Jun • £14 adv • 7pm

King Prawn

- + Black Candy
- + Kapelle

Sat 10th Jun • £19.50 adv • 11pm

P30 Memorial Mash Up Part II Ft. DJ Guv

- + Logan D
- + TNA
- + Ray Keith

Tue 13th Jun • £5 adv

Oxford Underground

Wed 14th Jun • £5 adv

Oxford Underground

Fri 16th Jun • £11 adv • 6.30pm

Hunter & The Bear

- + Model Aeroplanes

Sat 17th Jun • £13.50 adv • 6pm

Nick Mulvey

Sun 18th Jun • £7 adv

Dance a la Plage

- + Victors

Sat 24th Jun • £18.50 adv

The Inflatables

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- + King Hammond & The Rude Boy Mafia
- + Darren Bennet

Tue 27th Jun • £15 adv

Tom Clarke from The Enemy

Thurs 29th Jun • £15 adv

Jesse Malin

- + Retroyka

Sat 8th July • £6 adv • 9pm

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- + Tom Dred,
- + Lee Valentine
- + Unity Sistren

Sun 9th July • £15 adv

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Fri 4th Aug • £10 adv

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Tues 15th Aug • £17 adv

Too Many Zooz

- + Thabo.

Sat 19th Aug • £8 adv • 7pm

Haze

Sat 2nd Sept • £8 adv • 7pm

The Wholls

- + Little Brother Eli

Fri 8th Sept • £15 adv • 6.30pm

Roddy Woomble

Sun 10th Sept • £27.50 adv • 7pm

The Psychedelic Furs - The Singles Tour

Thu 21st Sep • £22.50 adv

New Found Glory

Sat 23rd Sep • £10 adv • 6.30pm

Elvana - Elvis Fronted Nirvana

Mon 25th Sep • £18 adv

Mayday Parade - A Lesson in Romantics 10th Anniversary Tour

Thurs 28th Sep • £25 adv

DJ Shadow

Fri 29th Sep • £13 adv • 6.30pm

The Velvets: Celebrating 50 Years of The Velvet Underground

Thu 5th Oct • £15 adv • 6pm

The Dears

Fri 6th Oct • £29.50 adv • 6.30pm

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Sat 7th Oct • £13 adv • 6.30pm

The Smyths: Strangeways Here We Come Tour

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- + Cosmosis

- + Empyre

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Fri 3rd Nov • £23 adv • 6.30pm

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Pearl Jam UK

Fri 10th Nov • £22 adv • 6.30pm

Billy Bragg

Fri 17th Nov • £12 adv • 6.30pm

Antarctic Monkeys

Sat 18th Nov • £12 adv • 6.30pm

Definitely Mightbe

Fri 24th Nov • £22.50 adv • 6.30pm

Dr John Cooper Clarke

Thurs 30th Nov • £22.50 adv

Scouting For Girls

Fri 1st Dec • £14 adv • 6.30pm

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Sat 2nd Dec • £12.50 adv • 6.30pm

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Fri 8th Dec • £15 adv • 6.30pm

Absolute Bowie

Fri 8th Dec • £21.25 adv

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Thurs 21st Dec • £23 adv

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Nothing common here!

By Samantha McGregor

FESTIVAL Common People makes a return to Oxford for the bank holiday weekend with Sean Paul and Pete Tong headlining.

Appearing over the weekend will also be Rag 'N' Bone Man, Groove Armada, Saint Etienne, Amy MacDonald, House Gospel Choir, Becky Hill, The Cuban Brothers and Elvana - Elvis Fronted Nirvana.

Common People founder Rob da Bank said: "Common People is all about having some proper moments together as friends and family."

"Held with the help and support of Oxford City Council, Common People 2017 is gonna kick off the festival seasonal with a proper party."

"Our cast this year to make you dance, sing and generally lose your shizzle include none other than recent Number One album artist, Mr Pete Tong, a legend of the dance and Radio 1 for over quarter of a century now, and here with a rare outdoor performance of his orchestral wonder Ibiza Dance Classics."

Duran Duran performed at last year's Common People festival



"Also, stepping up is Sean Paul, a dancehall god with more bangers up his sleeve than a fireworks factory."

Sean Paul is topping the bill on Saturday and DJ legend Pete Tong and the Heritage Orchestra and conductor Jules Buckley will headline The Common Stage on Sunday night.

Pete Tong said: "Performing Ibiza Classics with the Heritage

Orchestra and Jules Buckley is one of the most exciting things I've ever been involved with, from stepping on stage at The Royal Albert Hall for the R1 proms through to performing to a packed to the rafters 02 in London, it's been a non-stop thrill, now bringing the show to the great outdoors for our first festival appearance at Common People could be our biggest thrill yet."

As well as the music there will be plenty of other entertainment at the site, including a disco shed, vintage fun fair rides, street food, a cocktail bar, children's area, face painting and "crazy" inflatables.

Taking place at South Park on Saturday and Sunday, May 27 and 28, the festival is produced by the creators of Bestival.

For tickets go to common-people.net



Look up to the skies...

The Battle of Britain Memorial Flight is paying a visit to Bicester during the Flywheel Festival.

Held at former Second World War bomber station, Bicester Heritage, Flywheel celebrates the best in historic aviation and cars and takes place on June 24 and 25.

The sky above Bicester will also see the return of one of Britain's most famous flying machines, a Mk IX Spitfire flying in its original 222 Squadron Code ZD-B livery.

It will be joined in a dogfight recreation by a Hispano Buchon in Messerschmitt 'Yellow 10' livery, with both aircraft also touching down to be on static display.

There will also be dogfighting action from the renowned

Great War Display Team and precision flying from the Tiger 9 Aeronautical Display Team.

Historic helicopters and bi-planes will showcase their skills in the sky.

Elsewhere, hundreds of historic road, racing cars and bikes will take to the demonstration track.

There will also be fun fair rides, military re-enactors, a vintage trade fair, period music performances and food stalls.

Richard Grafton, Flywheel director, said: "That we are still able to witness the engineering feats of some 80 years ago, is testament to the enduring legacy of these iconic machines."

Tickets from flywheelfestival.com

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For further information contact Festival Director

Em Marshall-Luck at English Music Festival, Suite M0222, 265-269 Kingston Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3NW or by email to: em_marshall-luck@englishmusicfestival.org.uk.

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Accompanied children 3-15 yrs just £1 each. Trains depart Chinnor at 11.00, 12.15, 13.30, 15.00 and 16.30. Classic Cars on display Sat 28 May.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Can you detect the real truth behind the curious incident?

By Samantha McGregor

THE Curious Incident Of The Dog in the Night-time returns to Oxford's New Theatre Oxford this month after a sell-out run in 2015.

The play is adapted from Mark Haddon's best-selling book by Simon Stephens and directed by Marianne Elliott.

The show tells the story of 15-year-old Christopher Boone.

He stands beside Mrs Shears' dead dog, which has been speared with a garden fork – it is seven minutes after midnight and Christopher is under suspicion.

He records each fact in a book he is writing to solve the mystery of who murdered Wellington.

Christopher has an extraordinary brain, and is exceptional at maths but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life.

He has never ventured alone beyond the end of his road, he detests being touched and



distrusts strangers.

But his detective work, forbidden by his father, takes him on a frightening journey that upturns his world.

Playing the central role of Christopher Boone is Scott Reid – currently appearing

in BBC1's comedy *Still Game*, with Lucianne McEvoy as his teacher Siobhan, Emma Beattie as Judy, David Michaels as his father Ed, Debra Michaels as Mrs Alexander and Eliza Collings as Mrs Shears.

The Curious Incident of the

Dog in the Night-Time received seven Olivier Awards in 2013, including Best New Play and five Tony Awards on Broadway including Best Play.

Mr Haddon is an Oxford based author, illustrator and screenwriter who has written 15 books for children and won two BAFTAs.

His best-selling novel, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, won 17 literary prizes, including the Whitbread Award.

In the lead up to the play appearing in Oxford Mr Haddon visited several schools across the county talking to pupils about the novel, which was added to GSCE literature text for schools in 2014.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time takes to the stage from Monday, May 22, and runs until Saturday, May 27.

Tickets from the New Theatre box office on George Street, by calling 0844 871 3020 or from atgtickets.com/oxford

Snapper down at fish shop

THE first major exhibition by photographer Kazem Hakimi has opened across two galleries.

Called *Portraits from a Chip Shop*, the show, at the Old Fire Station and Modern Art Oxford, features portraits taken by Kazem over the past two years as part of the OX4 project.

Well known in the East Oxford community, Kazem has recorded his community by posing his customers against the same white wall at the back of his fish and chip shop on the Iffley Road in East Oxford.

He said: "My customers are a cross-section of society and the photographs reveal an Oxford which is very different to the image of the city known to the outside world, one that is multi-ethnic and diverse. This series celebrates the range of characters who have made Oxford the city I love."

Born in Shiraz, Iran in 1960, Hakimi moved to Oxford in the 1980s and studied Civil Engineering at Oxford Polytechnic, where he spent most of his time in the photography department, mastering his art



One of the portraits by Kazem Hakimi taken at his chippy

over the last 30 years.

Hakimi has previously exhibited in solo and group exhibitions across Oxfordshire and in 2008, his work was published in the book *An Eye for Iran: The Photographs of Kazem Hakimi*.

Emma Ridgway, head of programme at Modern Art Oxford says: "His dignified photographic portraits capture trust, warmth and compassion; the images invite us to share a moment of emotional connection between the subject and artist."

"It is also inspiring that he creates these excellent portraits while running a full-time business, using his chip shop as his photographic studio."



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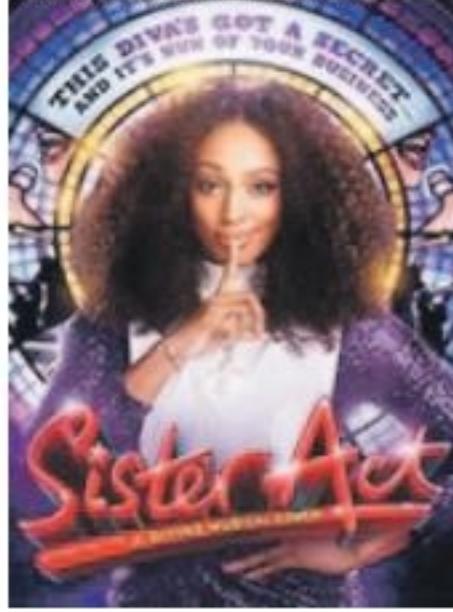


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Mon, May 18 - Sat, May 20
The New Theatre, Oxford

SISTER ACT

Sister Act tells the hilarious story of Deloris Van Cartier, a disco diva whose life takes a surprising turn when she witnesses a murder.



Under protective custody she is hidden in the one place she won't be found - a Convent! Disguised as a nun and under the suspicious watch of Mother Superior, Deloris helps her fellow sisters find their voices as she unexpectedly rediscovers her own.

Thu, May 18, 7pm
O2 Academy, Oxford

THE MISSION

The Mission embark on a UK tour in support of their new studio album, Another Fall From Grace.

Sun, May 21

Oxford University Parks

RAG GARDEN PARTY

Oxford RAG is proud to invite you to an afternoon of tea, croquet, live music and cocktails at our brand new charity event - the RAG Garden Party! Join us for a long, lazy summer's afternoon and enjoy some of Oxford's finest live music, sweet and savoury treats and scenery, along with unlimited alcohol, all nestled away in the beautiful parks!

Tickets go on sale on Sunday 7th and will sell out quick at a bargain price of £20; so, to find out more information and to buy your ticket head to: facebook.com/events/103604310207063/

Thu, May 25, 8pm
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MERSON

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May 27, 6.30pm
O2 Academy, Oxford

NOVANA - A TRIBUTE TO NIRVANA

Novana is the UK's recreation of the legendary Nirvana. Not only do they look the part, but with an entire set filled with the finest of grunge, Novana is the band to see if you missed out on the real thing. Expect classics like 'Come As You Are' and 'Lithium' and many more. If you're looking for a 90s revival, look no further.

Thursday, May 25
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot

DAPHNE'S FLIGHT

21 years after their debut self-titled album and one UK tour, the tour de force that is Daphne's Flight is set to return to the stage in 2017.

Saturday, May 27
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot

JON OTWAY

John Otway and his hard hitting band attack his favourite set list with gusto, leaving plenty of room for anarchy, fun and acrobatics that are his trademark.

Tue, May 30

O2 Academy, Oxford

BARS AND MELODY/ JOHNNY ORLANDO

Pop rap duo, Bars and Melody are joining forces with Canadian popstar, Johnny Orlando for a co-headliner this summer. With support from Mackenzie Ziegler, Lauren Orlando and Tilly Devries, the dates are bound to be special, especially as it's Johnny's first time on UK soil.

Sun, Jun 4
Cornerstone Arts Centre,

BARS AND MARTY MACDONALD'S TOY MACHINE

Featuring the voices of CBeebies' Justin Fletcher and Nicole Davis as Pongo the Pig & Molly-Moo the Cow - from the team who brought you Marty MacDonald's Farm.

Sat, Jun 10
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JO HARMAN: PEOPLE WE BECOME



Guardian

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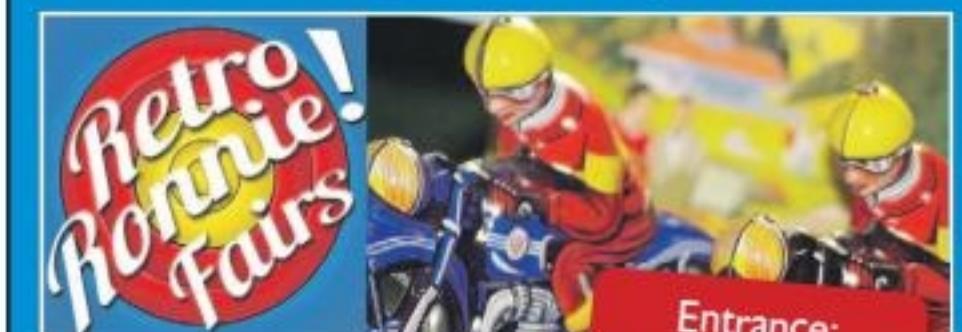
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YOUR DENTURE PROBLEMS SOLVED

Subaru BRZ 2.0i SE Lux Auto

Nimble, frisky and a bit of a minx

By Tony Yates

If you talk to anyone about buying a Subaru - they will automatically think you are a 'yobbo' and cast you aside thinking the only possible reason you had for buying one in the first place - was because you wanted to annoy every other road user.

And I have to admit - in a way, they do have a point, as there is a young chap who lives just round the corner from me who annoys me very much - because, he thinks owning a Subaru WRX STi means he needs to have a stereo the size of 'The Planet Earth' - and wheels that would not look out of place on a JCB.

Well I would like you to forget all about that now and instead focus on the new 2017 model Subaru BRZ - because actually this could just be the new sports car you have been yearning for.

Power and efficiency

Fitted with a 2.0 litre horizontally-opposed (Boxer), 4-cylinder,

4-stroke (DOHC 16V) petrol engine with 200ps @ 7000rpm and 205Nm of torque. 0-62mph is around 8.2sec, fuel consumption is a decent 39.8 mpg combined and a top speed of around 130mph.

Boxer engines have taken some stick in the past - but, actually they fascinate me - and the Boxer engine in the BRZ is pretty cool, thanks to key features such as the engine's square bore and stroke (86mm x 86mm), which all helps achieve a balance between mechanical efficiency, environmental performance, speed and power.

The engine is also fitted with the D-4S direct and port injection system. This selects the appropriate fuel injection rate to provide greater fuel efficiency and lower emissions.

On the road

Nimble, frisky and if I am being honest, a little minx - and that's just to get you started.

Take the nimble little BRZ out on the road and you will feel how well it grips

- again thanks to the BRZ being fitted with a Torsen limited slip rear differential for improved traction, allowing the more enthusiastic driver to make the most of the car's rear-wheel drive layout.

Of course to get the best out of a sports car - you need to have a front-engined, rear-wheel drive layout - and the BRZ has this by the bucket load.

For 2017, the dampers have also been redesigned to reduce body roll, increase precision whilst cornering, which has made a massive impact on ride comfort whilst still being a dynamically focused machine.

Subaru has also lowered the strut mounts to help reduce the centre of gravity which helps give the BRZ a much sleeker and lower profile on the road.

Design & technology

Some of the additional standard equipment on the BRZ includes; Auto on headlights (LED front & LED rear)



* Is this Subaru the sports car you have been yearning for?

6.2" multifunction colour touchscreen, satellite navigation, 17" alloy wheels, heated front seats, dual-zone automatic air-conditioning, cruise control, ABS, brake assist, front, side, curtain and knee airbags.

To sum up

What can I say - the BRZ is a great drive and perfect for someone who wants a nimble little sports car.

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2010 (10) CITROEN RELAY 33 HDI 100 2.2 Short Wheel Base Diesel Van in White - One Owner - Low Mileage - Air Conditioning - CD/Radio - Electric Windows & Mirrors - Sat Nav - Side Loading Door - Ply Lined - Security Locks to Load Area - Racking - Roof Bars & Pipe Carrier - Only c38251 Miles £5675 + vat

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2007 (57) VAUXHALL COMBO 2000 CDTI + 1.3 Diesel Van in White - One Owner - Full Service History - Air Conditioning - CD/Radio - ABS - Remote Central Locking - Steel/Mesh - Bulkhead - Side Loading Door - Racking - Only c28373 Miles £3795 + vat

2007 (07) FORD TRANSIT Connect T200 L75 1.8 Diesel Van in Blue - One Owner - CD/Radio - ABS - Twin Air Bags - Remote Central Locking - Steel Bulkhead - Twin Side Loading Doors - Lined Load Area - Only c39818 Miles £3695 + vat

2006 (56) FORD TRANSIT CONNECT LX TDCI 1.8 Long Wheel Base, High Roof Diesel Van - One Owner - Air Conditioning - CD/Radio - Heated Windscreens - ABS - Twin Air Bags - Remote Central Locking - Electric Windows & Mirrors - Steel Bulkhead - Twin Side Loading Doors - c86962 Miles £3695 + vat

2010 (10) VAUXHALL ASTRA SPORTIVE CDTI 1.9 Diesel Van in Silver - Two Owners - Full Service History - Air Conditioning - CD/Radio - Electric Windows & Mirrors - ABS - Twin Air Bags - Remote Central Locking - 6 Speed Transmission - Heated Rear Window - Rear Wash/Wipe - Roof Rails c111667 Miles £3595 + vat

2004 (04) VAUXHALL COMBO 2000 DTI 1.7 Diesel Van in White - Two Owners - Service History + Recent Service - Air Conditioning - CD/Radio - ABS - Drivers Air Bag - Central Locking - Rear Seat Conversion (2 Seats) - Side Access Door - Ply Lined - c85037 Miles £2295 No vat

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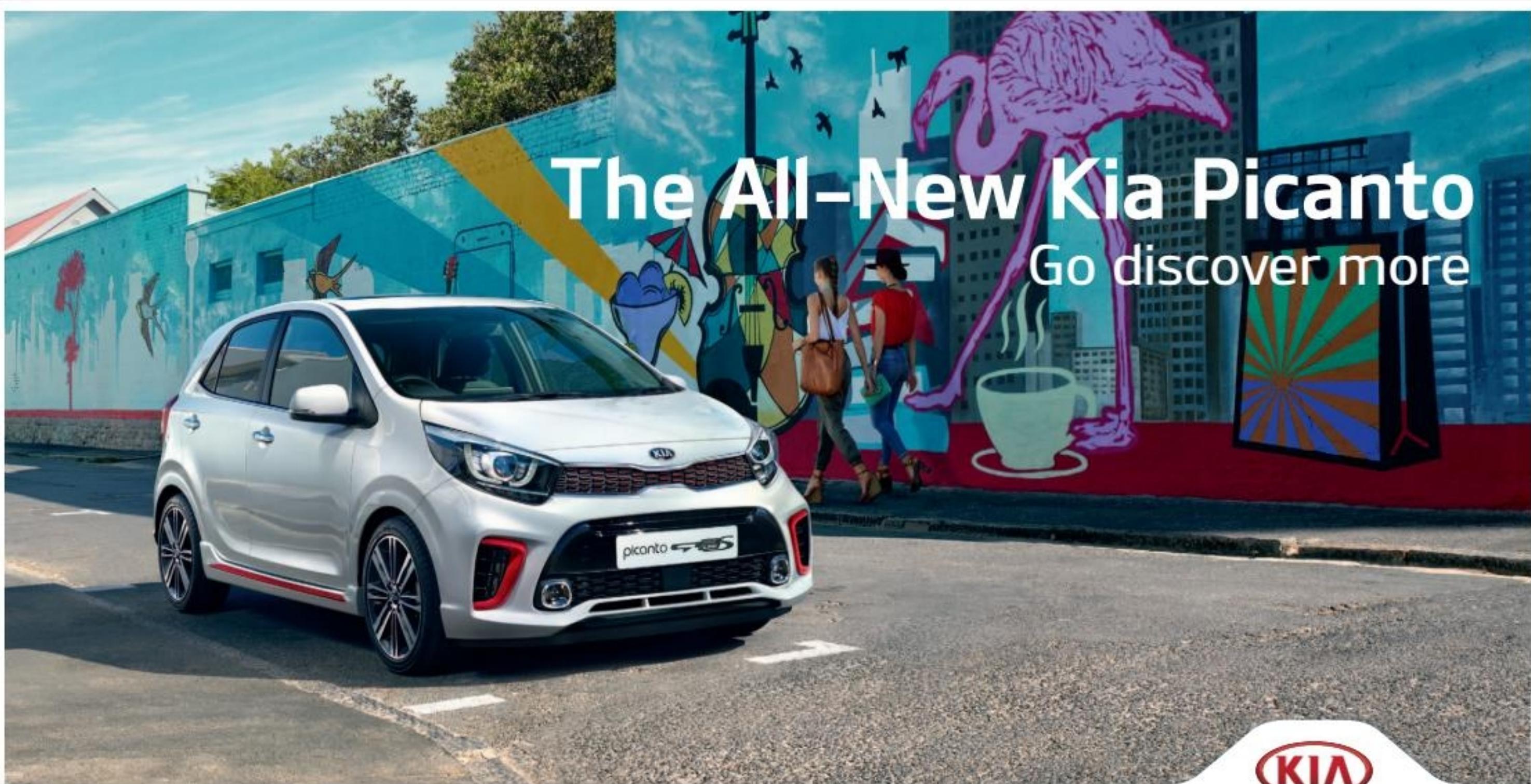
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Representative Example 2017 Honda Civic 129PS i-VTEC SR Manual

36 monthly payments	£209.00	Total amount payable	£22,471.17
On the road price	£20,340.00	Option to purchase fee	£10.00
Customer deposit	£4,831.32	Annual contracted mileage	10,000
Representative APR	5.9% APR	Interest rate PA (fixed)	5.68%
Total amount of credit	£14,758.68	Excess mileage charge	7ppm
Honda UK contribution	£750.00	Final payment (Inc. option to purchase fee)	£9,365.85



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Fuel consumption figures for the Civic 129PS i-VTEC SR Turbo Manual mpg (l/100km): Urban 44.1 (6.4), Extra Urban 64.2 (4.4), Combined 55.4 (5.1). CO₂ emissions: 117g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Model Shown: 2017 Civic 129PS i-VTEC SR Manual in Rallye Red at £20,340 On The Road (OTR). Terms and Conditions: New retail Civic i-VTEC Turbo petrol ordered from 01 April 2017 to 30 June 2017 and registered by 30 June 2017. Subject to model and colour availability. Not to be used along with any other offers currently available. Honda deposit contribution: £750 Honda deposit contribution on new Civic i-VTEC Turbo petrol models purchased through Honda Aspirations. 5.9% APR representative Honda Aspirations (PCP): Maximum customer deposit 30%. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Excess mileage charge includes VAT at current rate. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Honda Franchise Dealers are credit brokers, not lenders. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc, Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL. Honda Financial Services is a trading name of Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL a company registered at Companies House No 03289418. Honda Finance Europe Plc is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541. *A discount for the cost of 3 years' road fund licence will be passed to the customer and shown on the order form as discount in lieu of road fund licence. Please note it is the customer's responsibility to tax the vehicle when applicable. Johnsons Cars Ltd (Firm Reference Number: 512460) are an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Ltd, and are authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and are permitted to advise on and arrange General Insurance contracts.

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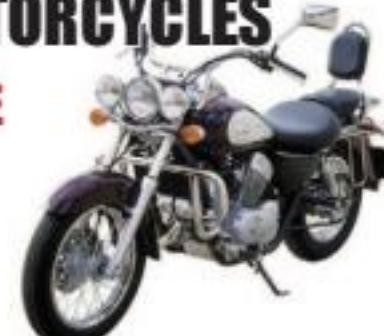
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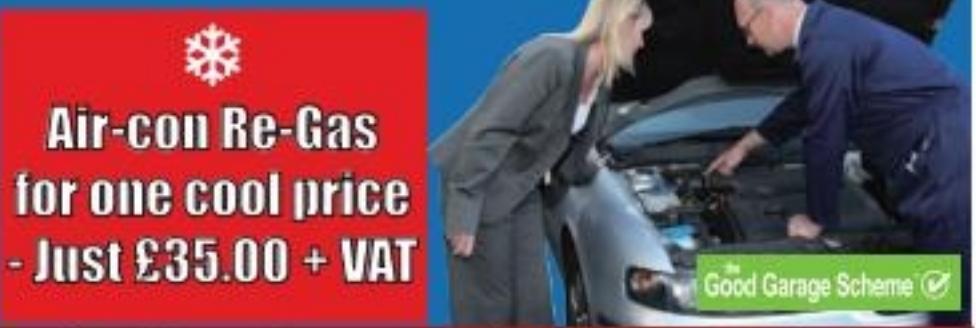


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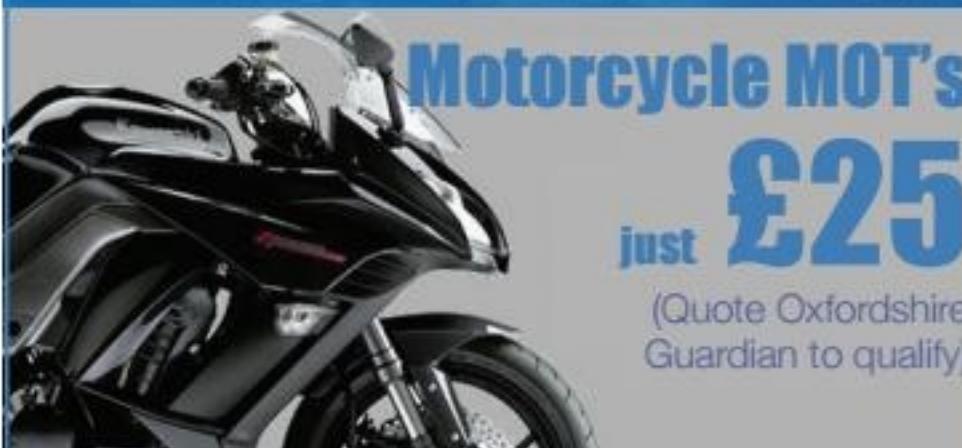
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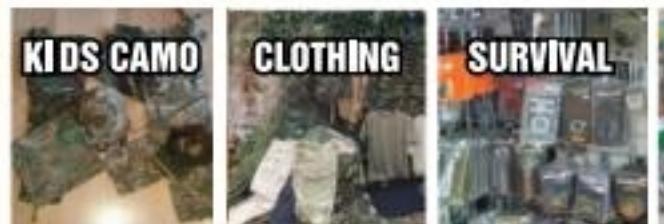
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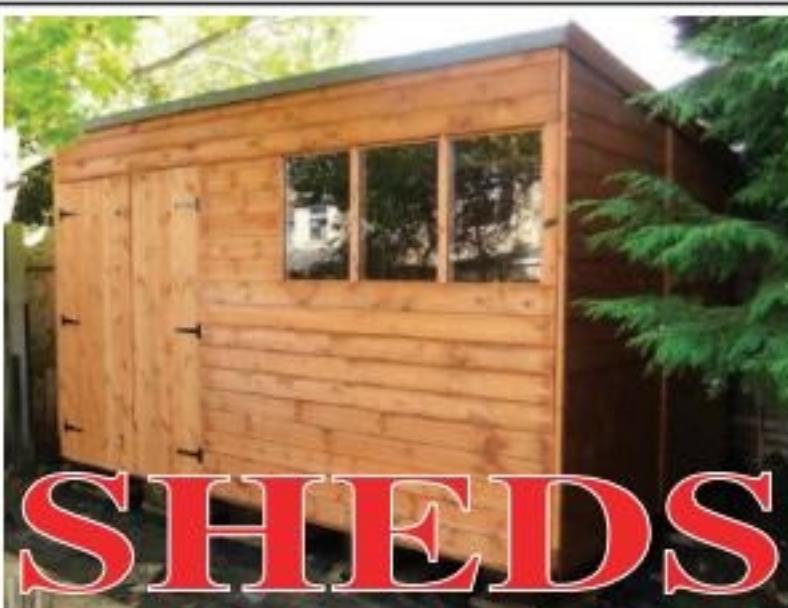
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Puncture at the end lets Grosjean in for a point

F1

A LATE collision with Daniil Kvyat in Sunday's Spanish Grand Prix caused Haas and Kevin Magnussen to miss out on a ninth-place finish.

Magnussen was battling to keep Kvyat behind him in the closing stages but picked up a puncture after contact between the two cars.

He dropped to 14th as a result, although it did mean that his teammate Romain Grosjean moved up into 10th to at least score one point for the Banbury-based team.

However, the team was disappointed not to get more out of the race in which a number of big name drivers fell out of contention.

Team principal Guenther Steiner blamed the medium tyres.

He said: "A disappointing end following a good start to the race.

"We were in good positions, the car was going well on the soft tyres and then the virtual safety car came out and we lost all our momentum.

"It just came out at the wrong time. We went too early on to the medium tyres and we just couldn't get it to work.

"The guys lost a few positions and then Kevin had a puncture.

"The only good thing coming out of here is that we got a point.

"We should have more, but that's racing."



Felipe Massa's race was ruined after a puncture on the first lap. Picture: Williams Martini Racing

F1

By Adam Flinn

ON a day when a big haul of points was possible, Williams could only manage 13th and 16th places in a disastrous afternoon for the Grove-based team at Sunday's Spanish Grand Prix.

A puncture on the first lap following contact with Fernando Alonso's McLaren ruined Felipe Massa's race, dropping him to the back after making an early pitstop.

He was then hit by the other McLaren of Stoffel Vandoorne on

lap 33, bringing out the virtual safety car as the Belgian retired.

From then on all Massa could do was bring the car home, eventually finishing 13th.

But the Brazilian believes fourth could have been possible after Kimi Raikkonen and Max Verstappen were eliminated in a collision at the first corner and Valtteri Bottas retired with mechanical problems.

He said: "I'm so disappointed.

"I had a fantastic start, passing [Sergio] Perez and Alonso on the straight and then I got to turn one and saw the incident ahead.

"I got to turn two and Alonso was suddenly on the outside of the corner.

We touched and I picked up a puncture, which ruined my race.

"We had a big opportunity to finish fourth, which I think I could have done because we had good pace.

"It's really painful because we lost so many points as a team."

It was an equally disappointing day for Massa's team-mate Lance Stroll, who struggled with his tyres for much of the race and limped home to 16th and last.

The young Canadian had started 18th and while he didn't suffer the dramas that Massa did, he just wasn't able to find the pace in his car on the medium tyres.

He said: "It was not a great race. I

have had better ones and I just found it frustrating.

"The start was good, as were the first couple of stints on the soft tyres and I had good pace at the beginning, but we just struggled on the mediums and started to lose grip.

"It was just one of those races, but I am sure it will be better next time.

"At every race I get more and more confident, but this weekend was just a tough one."

Massa is ninth in the championship standings with 18 points, while Stroll has yet to score. Williams are sixth in the constructors' table.

The next race is the prestigious Monaco Grand Prix on May 28.

Best finish for Renault since return to F1

F1

RENAULT picked up their best finishing position since returning to Formula One at the start of 2016 as Nico Hulkenberg came sixth at the Spanish Grand Prix on Sunday.

Most of the hard work was done at the start as Hulkenberg leapt from 13th on the grid to seventh.

He briefly dropped behind the Sauber of Pascal Wehrlein during the

pitstops but was able to regain it and moved up another place when Valtteri Bottas' Mercedes retired midway through the race.

"It's been our lucky day with some of the top cars out at the start, but also later on in the race too, so we clearly benefited from that," said Hulkenberg.

"At the same time we were there at every opportunity to do a good job and the guys did a great second pitstop to enable us to pass the Sauber."

Jolyon Palmer wasn't able to take advantage of three of the top six drivers dropping out, narrowly avoiding last place after getting past Lance Stroll on the final lap.

He said: "We went for an aggressive strategy given my starting position on the grid and I think it's fair to say it didn't bring us the reward we wanted.

"I wasn't able to get the pace out of the car when it was needed. However we were going better on the final set of tyres."



Nico Hulkenberg made a great start. Picture: Renault Sport Formula One

Youngsters miss out on chance to tread hallowed turf

Chinnor RFC's u12s



Rugby Union

AN up-and-coming rugby star insisted he still experienced a memorable weekend at a festival organised by the Northampton Saints – despite missing out on appearing at Twickenham.

Ben Chanter, the captain of Chinnor RFC u12s, and his side failed to qualify for the parade around the hallowed turf in the Land Rover Premiership Cup.

"It's absolutely amazing to be here at such a prestigious tournament," the 11-year-old said.

"I feel really proud and lucky to

be in this team. I love the physical side of the game – it is like controlled aggression.

"It is great to play rugby with your friends and it would have been amazing to get the chance to go to Twickenham."

Chinnor put up a strong fight in the tournament on Saturday at Northampton's ground with their brave tackling, crisp passes and slick offloads, but it just wasn't to be.

More than 20 teams took part including Wallingford U12s.

The festivals around the country celebrate rugby's traditional core values of teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline and sportsmanship.

Oxford leave it late

Rugby League

By George Welch

SUMMER signing Harrison Brough caught the eye on his debut with two tries, including the winner, in Oxford RL's first ever victory over Hunslet.

Tim Romford's side left it late to steal maximum points in a thrilling 24-22 win against the division's oldest team in the last few minutes at Tilsley Park on Sunday.

First blood went to Leeds-based Hunslet who opened the scoring when Liam Mackay found a gap in the Oxford defence.

The Blues, in their first match back from their Toronto visit, hit back in the Kingstone Press League 1 clash

thanks to Brough, who touched down in the corner for his first try of the afternoon.

A converted Jake Joynt try edged the hosts ahead and, as soon as they got the ball back, the lead was extended by a Josh Atkinson try.

Hunslet's second penalty of the match also led to their second try and, after Oxford had a try disallowed, it looked as though it would be only a small advantage for the home side at the break.

Seconds before the buzzer however, Harvey Burnett ran in Oxford's fourth try, which he converted himself, to give the Blues a 20-12 interval lead.

Hunslet's Cameron Leeming dived over for an unconverted try after the restart and they were soon level when

George Flanagan crossed the line.

The tide turned in the away side's favour when Joe Sanderson, who had missed his two previous conversion attempts, landed a penalty goal to put Hunslet 22-20 ahead.

But Oxford crossed the line for the decisive score when Brough crashed over in the corner with four minutes left on the clock.

Hunslet kept fighting and twice they were held up over the line as the Blues secured an historic win.

Oxford coach Tim Rumford said that it was "a very, very pleasing end result, but our performance can be better".

Rumford will take his Oxford side, who are 10th with three wins and three defeats, to pointless South Wales Ironmen on Saturday.



Stars to field a development team

Ice Hockey

OXFORD City Stars will field a development team for the 2017/18 season following a major restructuring of the English hockey league.

The second team, called Oxford Junior Stars, will compete in the third tier, known as NIHL2 South, and will face 12 other sides including Basingstoke Buffalo, Bracknell Hornets, and Swindon Wildcats 2.

This means Oxford will have teams in both the second and third tiers in the UK after the English Ice Hockey Association announced a new league format earlier this month.

Jayne Harrison, from the Junior

Stars, said: "This is a landmark event in terms of junior hockey development in the city and is reward for the hard work we've all invested in the junior club. We're looking forward to exciting times ahead."

The club said the Junior Stars would aid player development and help ensure a stable long-term future for the club.

Stars director Russell Shrives said: "We are building a really good relationship with the Oxford Junior Club and a major factor in developing this further will be the newly formed NIHL2 Oxford team that the junior club will run as a predominately development team, with a few old heads thrown in for their experience."

"This is extremely exciting and of the utmost importance for Oxford."

To build the team, the Junior Stars will hold a summer league for six weeks starting on June 7.

For more information and to register interest, contact John Harrison at john@hhmedical.plus.com

Oxford City Stars will play in Division 1 – the new second tier – next season and have been placed in Conference A.

They will be joined by Bracknell Bees, Basingstoke Bison, Milton Keynes Thunder, Solent Devils and Cardiff Fire.

The NIHL season will begin on the weekend of September 2/3 and is scheduled to end April 7/8.

Brilliant batting halts Bicester charge

Cricket

A REMARKABLE batting performance from East Oxford frustrated Bicester & North Oxford cricket club (BNOCC) as their league game was drawn.

Big scores from Alister Gibbins (111) and Nick Moorman (95) in a second wicket partnership of 183 helped Bicester to an imposing 304-6.

Debutant Will Irving chipped in with a useful 34 as Bicester went into

the interval feeling confident with such a large total for the visitors to chase.

BNOCC made the dream start with Andy Godbold (4-60) ripping through the East Oxford top order, including two in the second over of the innings, leaving them reeling at 60-5.

However Mubasher Hassan (78) and Amir Butt (88) set about rebuilding and stood firm in a sixth wicket partnership of 159.

The pair had a real go, adding 126 in the 15 overs after drinks to keep

them in touch with the run rate. With the game in the balance and East Oxford requiring 85 to win from the last nine overs, Danny Clark (2-49) made a breakthrough with Hassan caught at square leg by Moore.

Bicester now scented victory through two late wickets for Dan Murphy, one of them Butt, stumped by Warwick Bradfield.

But East Oxford clung on with two wickets remaining, surviving the remaining four balls to finish on 241-8, securing a hard-fought draw.



Pepperell misses the cut again after a good start

Golf

ABINGDON golfer Eddie Pepperell probably thought his 2017 could only improve on a disastrous 2016 that ended with a trip to Spain for qualification school to keep his European Tour card.

The 26-year-old endured a torrid second half of last year, missing the cut in seven of his eight tournaments from August to October.

But any hopes to climb the European and world rankings can, so far, be condemned to an unfulfilled new year's resolution as the Frilford Heath member's form this season has been akin to that of 2016.

Pepperell's 2017 campaign, which started in December, has involved six

missed cuts from seven competitions – the latest a T96 finish at last week's Open de Portugal.

After carding a par in his first round, which was disrupted by thunderstorms, he recorded -1 for his second round and for the tournament to narrowly miss the cut by two shots.

Pepperell had a whirlwind second round that included five birdies and four bogeys.

Heading towards the clubhouse, he was at -4 and comfortably inside the cut-line. But disaster struck when he dropped three shots in the final five holes for a total of 145.

Englishman Matt Wallace won the title with a score of -21, three shots ahead of his closest rivals Julian Suri.

Pepperell tees off at the Rocco Forte Open in Verdura, Sicily today.

Free membership bid to attract tomorrow's talent

Golf

A GOLF club in Oxford is appealing to the next generation of stars by offering free memberships.

Oxford Golf Club is offering free membership to children and grandchildren of full members of the club as part of an initiative to help grow the game of golf.

One of the county's oldest clubs, with origins of golf played on the Cowley Marsh site from as early as 1873, has backed an initiative led by England Golf to increase participation and encourage people to 'Get into Golf'.

Ten memberships have been taken since the start of the campaign in April.

Stephen Nicholson, general manager of Oxford Golf Club, said: "The initial uptake of our free junior membership has been great to see."

"We are keen to encourage the juniors to take part in all of the exciting activities, coaching and competitions we have planned throughout the year, and in future moving into adulthood."

"Oxford Golf Club have a strong reputation of encouraging juniors,



Peter Pan
Picture: The Sports Journalist

like single-figure handicapper Peter Pan, who only turned 12 years of age last week.

"And we hope that they will remain members and provide the longevity of membership for years to come."

Looking after the development of the juniors of Oxford Golf Club is the responsibility of Joe Pepperell, the resident PGA Professional, and brother of European Tour player Eddie.

Joe said: "The more juniors we can get experiencing the game, the better. Once they have that buzz, all they want to do is get better and better."

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2016/17 season review: January - April

United fight back for two cup runs and a charge up the table

OXFORD United fans couldn't be blamed for welcoming 2017 with an air of optimism.

While the first five months of the 2016/17 campaign was a period of steady adjustment as the U's adapted to life in the third tier, the new year began with Oxford sat in mid-table and fighting on three fronts.

In the four months between January and April, United jam-packed their schedule with 29 matches.

In that time Michael Appleton's side propelled themselves up the SkyBet League One table and continued their form in the Emirates FA Cup and the Checkatrade Trophy.

The Yellow's 62-game season included Wembley heartbreak for the second season running and the campaign ended with the play-offs tantalisingly out of reach.

Appleton admitted Wembley defeat to Coventry City in the Checkatrade Trophy was the lowest moment in football for him, but he will be delighted with his team's performance over nine months, particularly in January and February.

United, who finished eighth and four points off the play-off places, gave fans plenty to cheer about in a season that has built solid foundations for the club to build on.

Three successive wins and clean sheets to finish the season sent U's supporters into the summer optimistic of another successful League One campaign, which will kick off on August 5.

2017

January

There was no New Year hangover for the United players and six wins in seven matches in all competitions made January the most successful month of the season.

Appleton celebrated his cup heroes following a 3-0 thrashing of eventual

Championship winners Newcastle United at the Kassam Stadium – his 150th game in charge.

An inspired performance from goalkeeper Simon Eastwood and a debut goal from West Ham loanee Toni Martinez helped United to the thumping win against a significantly rotated Toon side.

Goals either side of half-time from Kane Hemmings and Curtis Nelson secured Oxford's first FA Cup fifth round appearance since the 1993/94 season. They would meet another north east side, Middlesbrough, in the next round.

Appleton hailed the fourth round win over the Magpies as the best of his career, despite beating Arsenal at the Emirates as Blackburn Rovers manager in 2013's FA Cup.

The U's also made progress in the Checkatrade Trophy, brushing aside two League One high-flyers – Scunthorpe United and Bradford City – to reach the semi-final.

Off the field, fans' favourites Alex MacDonald and Ryan Taylor both departed the club for League Two Mansfield and Plymouth. Appleton boosted his forward line with the loan signings of Conor McAleny from Everton and West Ham's Martinez.

February

Midfielder Liam Sercombe and winger Rob Hall became the latest names to become part of derby folklore when Oxford United came from behind to beat rivals Swindon Town at the County Ground.

The pair scored three minutes apart in the final 20 minutes to overturn a first half Swindon goal to complete a 2-1 win and a league double over the Robins.

A first ever win over MK Dons and further victories at Charlton Athletic and Chesterfield followed to launch Oxford from 12th at the start of the month to ninth and within sight of the

play-offs heading into penultimate month of the season.

McAleny announced himself to U's fans in style with the winner at Charlton and a hat-trick against Chesterfield to help the Yellows to an impressive 10 wins in 13 matches.

Unfortunately for Appleton, hotshot McAleny was ineligible for the FA Cup fourth round when a late Middlesbrough goal broke the hearts of more than 3,300 United fans at the Riverside and cruelly ended Oxford's FA Cup giant killing hopes.

It initially looked far too easy for the Premier League side when Grant Leadbitter and Rudy Gestede gave the hosts a 2-0 lead within 35 minutes.

But United were brave and two goals in a minute from Chris Maguire and Martinez shortly after the hour mark brought Oxford level and dreaming of another cup upset.

That dream was crushed in the most dramatic fashion however, when Uruguay international Christian Stuani gave Middlesbrough, who would be relegated from the Premier League at the end of the season, a late winner four minutes from time.

March

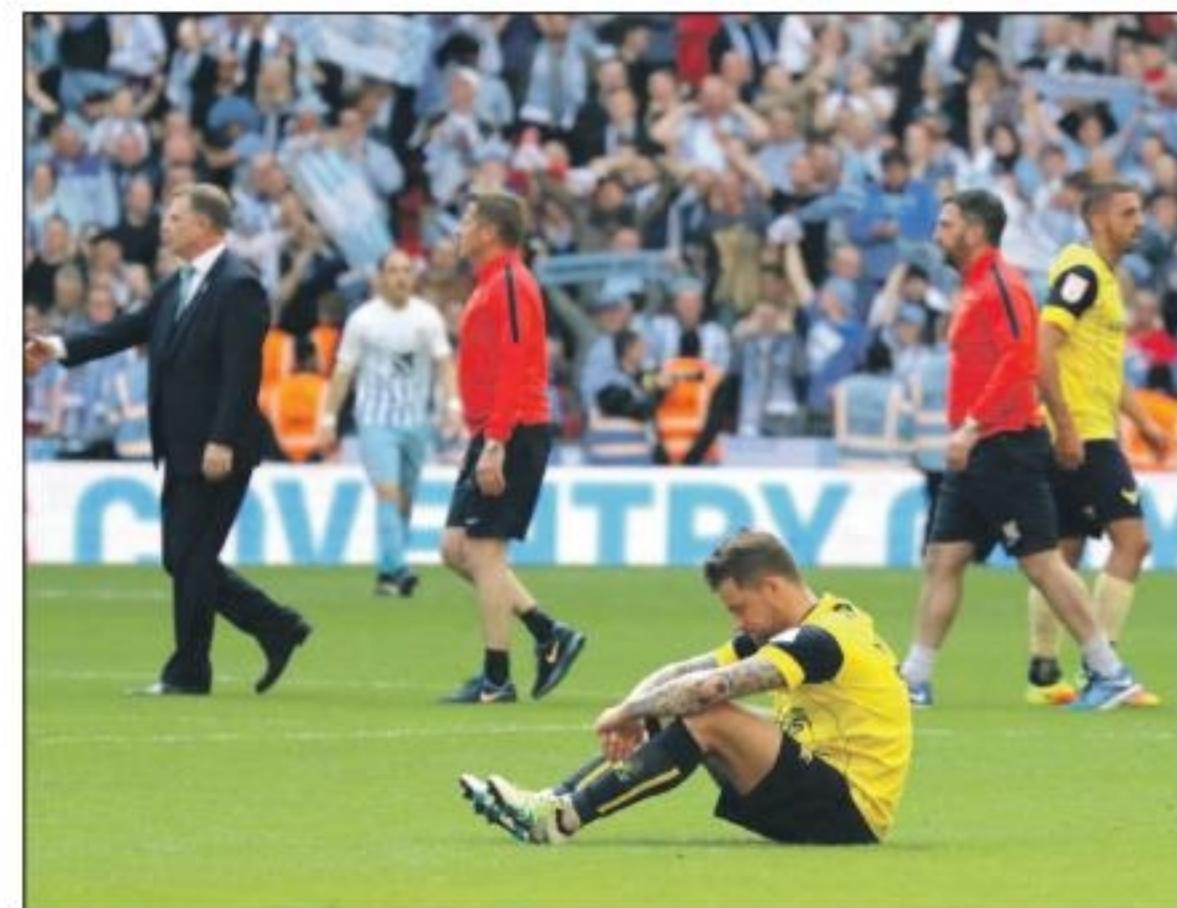
The Oxford United squad was pushed to the limit in a month packed with eight league matches and a Checkatrade Trophy semi-final.

A thrilling 3-2 win at League Two Luton booked Oxford's tickets for the EFL Trophy final for a second consecutive year.

United held a commanding 2-0 lead heading into the final 20 minutes thanks to a first half strike from loanee right back Phil Edwards and an own goal.

However, the Hatters turned the game on its head with two goals in three minutes from Isaac Vassell and former United striker Danny Hylton.

It took a moment of individual brilliance from winger Marvin Johnson,



APRIL: A gutted Chris Maguire after the Checkatrade Trophy final defeat at Wembley. Picture: Steve Daniels



FEBRUARY: Players celebrate drawing level against Middlesbrough but Oxford's FA Cup run came to an end in the north east. Picture: Darrell Fisher

whose left-footed curler from just outside the area five minutes from time reclaimed the away side's lead. Luton had no comeback this time.

The U's shared the League One goals around the squad with 10 different scorers on hand to notch 14 goals in eight games.

Three wins, a draw and four defeats left United four points off the play-offs heading into the final six league games.

McAleny continued to catch the eye and the forward received the plaudits once more for his second hat-trick for the club after joining in the winter transfer window.

His treble – and further goals from Marvin Johnson and Joe Rothwell – punished struggling Bury 5-1 at the Kassam as the U's warmed up in style for Wembley and ended the month in a seasons-high of eighth place.

April

Oxford United's players and fans enjoyed their day at Wembley in the final of the 2016 Johnstone's Paint Trophy – but this year Appleton said his side were there to win the trophy.

The head coach admitted he approached the Checkatrade Trophy final differently this time around but his under-par U's wilted in the Wembley sun for the second time in 12 months.

Coventry City midfielders Gail Bigirimana and George Thomas gave the Sky Blues, who were rooted to the bottom of League One, a two-goal advantage.

United failed to fight back despite Sercombe's lifeline 15 minutes from the end and some frantic, late pressure.

A dejected Appleton said he refused to watch the 2-1 defeat back and described the defeat as "the worst day I've had in football".

A bad week turned into a dreadful week when a home loss to Fleetwood Town three days later ended United's play-off hopes.

After stalling further with a solidary point against Walsall and Bradford City, the U's finished the season in assured style.

Academy product Josh Ruffels scored two goals in two games as United finished with a statement of intent for next season, racking up three consecutive wins and clean sheets.

A self-assured U's scored seven goals without reply against strugglers Port Vale and Shrewsbury Town and play-off finalists Millwall to finish an impressive season in eighth place, a position anybody would have taken back in August.



JANUARY: Toni Martinez heads in a debut goal and United's third as they upset Newcastle United in the FA Cup. Picture: Steve Daniels



MARCH: Conor McAleny completes his hat-trick – his second treble after joining in January – against Bury to help the U's up to eighth. Picture: Steve Daniels



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United lose trophy vote

By George Welch

OXFORD United were overwhelmingly outvoted over the structure of next season's Checkatrade Trophy.

Teams were given three options to choose from for the 2017/18 competition and voted by a big majority to keep the current format - with some key amendments.

The U's, who have finished runner-up for the last two seasons, were one of 11 clubs that wanted to revert to the previous layout.

The EFL Trophy was overhauled this season in an experiment that included 16 'invited sides' from the Championship and Premier League.

SkyBet League One and Two clubs met on Thursday last week to discuss the competition, which was marred in the early rounds by low attendances and fan boycotts.

The Yellows lost to Coventry City in this season's final in front of nearly 75,000 fans at Wembley last month, but voted to revert to the previous format of the competition.

Clubs could vote for one of three outcomes: to keep the current format with amendments, revert to a 48-team knockout competition or abandon the tournament altogether.

The EFL said 66.6 per cent of clubs voted for the first option so the format - with some key changes - will be retained for seasons 2017/18 and 2018/19.



Coventry City players celebrate their Checkatrade Trophy victory
Picture: Steve Daniels

Oxford United chairman Darryl Eales said: "It is a democratic process and we will abide by the vote."

Key changes to the current system include a more relaxed selection criteria, making invited academy teams play all of their group matches away from home and more prize money will be awarded, between just under £2m to £3m.

EFL chief executive Shaun Harvey said: "We committed at the outset of

this season's competition to conduct a full and comprehensive review of the competition and, importantly, give our clubs the ability to ensure they make the key decisions regarding where we take the competition.

"After asking clubs in advance for some initial thoughts on the competition, today [last Thursday] was the next stage of the process and I'm delighted we were able to have such a full and frank exchange of views

that will now assist the executive in refining a final proposal that our clubs will now vote on."

Mark Robins, manager of trophy-holders Coventry City, said: "The Checkatrade Trophy has been an invaluable experience for those players at an under-21 level to participate in senior football. It will certainly aid their development moving forward.

"We won the competition with what was primarily a young team."

Leagues allocated for county's smaller teams

NON-LEAGUE teams in Oxfordshire have been allocated their divisions for the 2017/18 season.

The FA met on Thursday last week to discuss the league allocations for the new season.

Hellenic Premier League champions Thame United, under the stewardship of Mark West, will join Southern League Division One Central but, somewhat controversially, Kidlington will not.

The Greens, who enjoyed a mid-table finish in their first ever appearance at step 4 of the non-league struc-

ture, have questioned the decision to switch them into Division 1 South & West next season.

The Yarnton Road side thought they would stay in Division 1 Central but Portsmouth-based Moneyfields, promoted from the Wessex League, were placed in the Central division instead.

This means Kiddy will join Didcot Town and North Leigh in Division 1 South & West.

Wantage Town, relegated from that division last campaign, will join Ardgley United and Abingdon United in the Hellenic Premier League.

There were no other moves for Oxfordshire's other top non-league sides, with Oxford City remaining in National League South and Banbury United remaining in the Southern Premier League.

The FA has also announced the biggest shake-up to the structure of the grassroots game in more than a decade.

Two new divisions at steps 3 (organised by EVO-STIK League Southern) and 4 (Isthmian League) will be introduced from August 2018 following a review of the national league system.

The restructure aims to iron out geographical anomalies, cut down on travelling costs and time for fans, players and officials and encourage more step 5 clubs to climb the pyramid.

In total, the 276 clubs currently playing in steps 1 to 4 will increase by 20 to 296.

Only the bottom clubs in the current step 3 and 4 divisions will be relegated at the end of season 2017-18. This could impact Didcot Town, Kidlington, North Leigh, Thame United and Banbury United.

U's sign Shearer - in goal

VETERAN goalkeeper Scott Shearer is ready to push player of the season Simon Eastwood all the way for the number one shirt at Oxford United.

The 36-year-old is U's boss Michael Appleton's first summer signing ahead of next season and has agreed a one-year deal, with a further 12-month option, after being released by Mansfield Town.

The stopper, who will initially provide backup to Eastwood, said the club's ambition enticed him to the Kassam Stadium.

He added: "They [Oxford] were a very strong side last season and everything here is geared towards building on that."

"Obviously I know that Simon Eastwood was player of the year, and deservedly so, but my role is to come in, push him all the way and add a bit of experience around the dressing room."

"I can't wait to get started."

The Scot has played over 350 games in a career that has seen him between the sticks at Rushden and Diamonds, Wycombe Wanderers, Crawley Town and, most recently, at SkyBet League Two side Mansfield Town.

Shearer's arrival will allow rookie keepers Jack Stevens and Manny Agboola to gain more playing time out on loan.

Appleton added: "Scott has vast experience and is still an excellent keeper. He knows the score: Easty [Simon Eastwood] is the number one."

"One of the things we talked about is adding a bit of experience to the dressing room so hopefully he is the first of a few older heads who will be really beneficial to the group as a whole."

Meanwhile, Burton loanee Phil Edwards, who made 38 appearances and scored three goals for the U's this season, has signed a two-year deal at Bury.

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